he prestige of the leading political parties has been declining year by

Young people seem less interested than ever in playing an active part in politics. Local government alone retains some attraction.

The obvious explanation is that changes can still be made or prevented at the local level. It therefore attracts talent and commitment. But elsewhere?

Last autumn opinion polls revealed that nearly 70 per cent of 18- to 25-yearold voters felt the established parties were incapable of solving the problems faced.

To dismiss the opinion polls as nonsense, as some politicians do, is to delude oneself.

It is clear that the established parties enjoy less confidence than they used to do. Loss of competence, is the main

Competence means both ability and responsibility. It can be forfeited for external reasons, such as when responsibility is transferred elsewhere, or for internal reasons, such as when the quality of office-holders declines.

Both are valid in this case.

The state assemblles are a good example. They no longer have much to do, few laws to pass and few regulations to discuss.

Reports of their sessions are seldom of much interest unless there happens to be a tale of trouble with some highranking official, an argument about schooling or news of the Land having burnt its fingers in some financial deal or other.

Instead, what happens is that state assemblymen cultivate close ties with Ministry officials.

They are than better able to get a hearing for complaints from their constituency, to gain approval of grant applications and to enlist public figures to attend ceremonies in connection with, say, centenary celebrations.

Everyone assiduously makes contacts with the people who "count" and tells people back home how important it is to have the right contacts.

Werner Remmers, the Lower Saxon Education Minister, admits that this is the run-of-the-mill service parliamentarians provide for their constituents.

Maybe it is, in moderation, part of the job, but the distinction between administration and parliamentary control can easily fray at the edge, creating an atmosphere of jobs for the boys.

In the Bonn Bundestag competence has been lost at another level. National parliaments in the European Community countries are steadily forfeiting sovereignty to Brussels and places further afield.

. The Bundestag has forfeited competence to international agreements, legal ties. EEC regulations, legislative harmonisations, financial obligations, multinational economic links and military

Politically speaking, there are sound reasons why this should be so, but parliamentarians are in any case no longer able to influence the trend much in one direction or the other.



Lobbies can prove more effective, such as farmers, managers of leading industrial conglomerates and trade

That may be one reason why the debate within political parties is still alive and well, whereas parliamentary parties have grown cumbersome and unimagi-

Much can be demanded and resolved at party conferences, whereas in parliament the MP finds out in practice how many links and restrictions there are.

Besides, there are commitments to party-political and coalition discipline, and the net outcome is that a seat in the Bundestag has grown steadily less at-

It follows that fewer talented men and women apply for the job, with the result that good men are few and far between and governments have few talented youngsters to fail back on.

Over the past year or two entire Cabinets have been moved around like chessmen, from Bonn to Berlin, then to Hamburg. Before long they will doubtless be recalled to Bonn.

Plans for Cabinet reshuffles in Bonn have begun to be hamstrung by a shortage of qualified men and women waiting in the wings.

Must this be the case? Will advanced industrialised states in future bo governed exclusively by highly quali-

fied civil servants (who naturally still exist) and by lobby representatives and technocrats (also skilled men)?

Will mediocre parliamentarians be edged out of decision-making processes? This need not happen, but it is a possibility that is a challenge to the political parties, to their make-up and to their behaviour.

Most politicians behave as though everything were under control and problems were slowly but surely being solved and as though there would be no possible cause for complaint if only they were allowed to remain in control or, alternatively, to be given a crack of the whip.

It is most unusual for a politician not to flex his muscles and to frankly admit that he does not know enough about a subject to venture an opinion.

Seldom are politicians prepared openly to weigh the pros and cons of an issue or a decision and to shoulder a risk or admit that they are not prepared

Showing off seems to be the rule. It is a ritual and, like all rituals, has its origins. Voters evidently expect their MP to take a stand and to be virtually om-

They entrust to him their worries. their aggression, the protection of their interests, their hopes.

This motivates the political fighter. influences his character and drapes an invisible ermine round his shoulders. This relationship and the expectations on which it is based end by curtailing any exchange of views:

Another point is that while people are well ware of many problems that lie

Unemployment, for instance, to more than likely to increase over the next six to eight years, and the incr

The reasons are self-evident: the kindlerg, 27 June 1982 birth rates of the 60s, the decline is a property first Year - No. 1041 - By air nomic growth and effect of the mi

A costly reform of the scheme is also in the pipeline Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe ruled in favour of equal treatment

Everyone knows that working people are going to have to pay more tow the upkeep of the jobless and peni ners, at least for a while,

The extra burden will be tolera one or two per cent more in social se rity contributions. Which is preferable

a real problem, but who will say side.

plain the situation, but election campial Assembly session on disarmament

if the parties were to call on the publish between Secretary of State Haig to take a more level-headed look and Foreign Minister Gromyko. problems and show preparedness a There can be no question of either make material sacrifices, if that is the street becoming ideologically flexible let

ing too undemanding of their votes hat the hard core of the debate must who are now giving them what they is the behind the propaganda fireserve for trying to fob them off with to untand the words. ble arguments.

If only the parties were to make you was sgain because they have been ter demands on their clientele, people white been would then have more confidence but the beautiful to handle peripheral detheir elected representatives were ap in the israeli invasion of Lebanon. ble by and large of coping intellectuals and financially with the problem d Boan European allies felt the US faced. But then, and then only.

It does have a number of objects causes that are a challenge to practical in the educational system.

Once these problems are dealt with a reasonable to tackled with a reasonable prospect of success, the negative representations of youth protest will be allered and experts

The speed with which the all-part line: commission drew up a generally of the Versailles, a matter vincing report would seem to bear of distarpretation assumptions that parliamentarians at aware of the urgency of the problem. CINEMA

This is a promising sign. It must not be a matter of saying what young people of contradictions ple want to hear, as Social Democration and the second property of t Horst Ehmke rightly noted.

But a number of conclusions must take the less take the less take the less take the less take Union.

and set the targets again, for instant and not just follow the opinion political talian companies with retaliation and try to back their winners.

the state.

Minorities, as in West Berlin, call by Defence Secretary Weinberger in problems. That is why minorities must be on the political agenda and an ast the Department of Comswer must be found to protest amount had it was a defeat for the US offithe young.

A start seems to have been made.

ahead, this awareness is not being German Tribune

A WEEKLY KEVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

ISSN 0016-8858

# America and Russia get back to words

rity contributions. Which is preferate and Russia are back on this or a slower increase in pensions? Atalking terms, initially at two levels, Sociologists and politicians he diplomatic and the rhetorical. And been known to say that this will not have not mincing words with each

The chilliness of the climate can be The media and the experts may of ma from the speeches to the UN Gengners seem incapable of doing so, while Gromyko and President Reagan, so do lobby representatives and MP. Halso can be seen from what little A seeming paradox follows. It is the better revealed about the third round

right term, they would regain authors has continuing trying to arrive at a They have grown accustomed to be said behaviour in the nuclear age.

lle superpowers have had to get

warmts such as the Falklands fightther Mr Reugan's visits to Versailles baident had grown more flexible to-

with worries of the Old World. (Studentsche Zeltung, 5 June 182) hat they were mistaken. President lagan renewed the strict export ban

#### IN THIS ISSUE

Stelness and light

who have shown understanding tems to have been made.

Karl Hugo Projs

(Nordwest Zeilung, 29 May 188)

\*\*Mo have shown understanding European position, led by Mr

There was, however, talk of merely the possibility of an embargo being reimposed on US grain shipments to the Soviet Union.

But the lie was given to the misleading impression gained at Versailles that Mr Reagan was prepared to turn a blind eye to the gas deal with Moscow provided Europe took a tougher credit line towards Russia.

The President unerringly kept to his view, which was that the Soviet Union must be left to bear the brunt of its domestic economic difficulties by itself.

The record-breaking Soviet arms build-up must not, he felt, be made even easier by Western aid. Pressure applied at this point could oblige the Kremlin to think again.

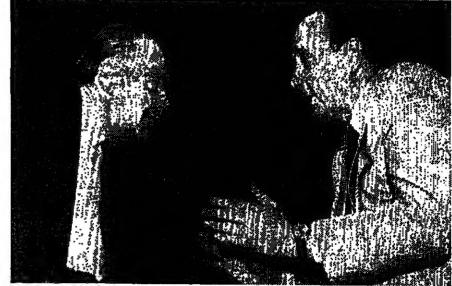
Chancellor Schmidt has misgivings about this policy. So does President Mitterrand. But their reservations fall on deaf-ears as far as President Reagan is concerned

At the United Nations he outlined a catalogue of Soviet misdeeds ranging from the breach of the Yalta Agreement to the crushing of the 1956 Hungarian uprising, the building of the Berlin Wall, the occupation of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan and fomenting unrest and terrorism from the Caribbean to the

Middle East. Such were the activities of Russia as a peacebreaker. America, in contrast, had ulways been obliged to take arms. It was the peacemaker and had been the standard-bearer of nuclear disarmament since 1946.

In the decade of so-called detente, Mr Reagan said, the Soviet Union had carried on arming to the teeth. Was it still prepared to reduce armaments?

Mr Gromyko in his speech levelled a



Tête-à-tête

Britain's Francis Pym (left) and Bonn's Hans-Dietrich Genscher at the EEC foreign ministers' conference in Luxembourg. The Middle East and sanctions against Argentina were two of the subjects on the agenda.

number of unpleasant accusations at the United States. Knowing he was addressing representatives of the Third World he announced details of Mr Brezhnev's solemn undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

Soviet officials were jubilant. The ball, they felt, was now definitely in Mr Rengan's court. But he chose to ignore the challenge entirely, reiterating his own disarmament proposals instead.

Renunciation of the first strike, the US State Department said, had no specific meaning whatever when one recalled the conventional superiority enjoyed by the Warsaw Pact in Europe.

Mr Reagan feels confirmed by Britain's success in the Falklands in his belief that Mrs Thatcher was right to act in defence of a principle.

Basically he is content with the Israesuccess in Lebanon too. Both, he feels, bear out his view that injustice cannot with impunity be taken lying

In the Pentagon Defence Department

officials are satisfied with the successes US weapons have scored over Soviet weapons during Israel's campaign in

The outcome could be a boost for those who drew up the controversial five-year US defence policy plan based on the postulate that Washington must be able to successfully withstand drawn-out nuclear hostilities.

But as General Jones, the outgoing chief of the US general-staff, put it, America cannot afford to fund such a strategy unless it is prepared to be snowed under by the cost.

There was no such thing as a lengthy nucleur war. Preparations must be made for a strategy that could be implemented.

It remains to be seen whether Mr Reagan really will meet Mr Brezhnev this autumn, Mr Haig and Mr Gromyko have no choice, thank heavens, but to continue their talks. Jan Reisenberg

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 June (982)

The only way to end the conflict in the Lebanon is for a new political order to take shape on the ruins left by the Israeli invasion. There is not much disagreement

about this in the West. the Lebanon It is what the French want. They strongly condemn the invasion and say Israel should get out. That is the first

and foremost demand. But the French government also says tht all troops in Lebanon must get out. Bonn and Washington agree. What does this really mean? Does it

refer to the Palestine Liberation Organisation guerillas? If so, where do they Setting up a government of national salvation as envisaged by President Sar-That is probably what is primarily at kis can only be a patchwork job as long issue in the Beirut talks by the US speas the various militias remain states

> It follows that the conflicts in Lebanon cannot be solved unless a solution is found to the problems of the Palestinians there.

has declared it will not withdraw its forces until some such settlement has been

Such are the conditions in which M Habib is trying to exert influence on ' various parties in Beirut, and he ha ready achieved some measure of cess in that leading Lebanese political have met for talks once more.

But the talks are pushed for time, the key question is how the Palestinian. might be persuaded to lay down their

The problem is that the Palestinia of question in Lebanon cannot be viewed separately from the Palestinian problem

Israel is expecting final destruction of the Palestinian units in Belrut as a more likely prospect than concessions leading

to a political solution. It would be a miracle if Mr Habib under pressure of events were to be able to end this vicious circle.

(Dor Tagesspiegel, 19 June 1982)

# Trying to come to terms with the views of the young

here is much too much said about A young people and much too little discussion with them. The Bundestag all-party commission of inquiry's report on Youth Protest in the Democratic State was clearly intended to remedy

The Bundestag debated the outcome of the commissions's work knowledgeably and level-headedly.

There were only a few polemical jibes to upset the overall impression of a Bundestag agreed in principle. But did it not perhaps come a little late in the lay? Thousand of young people have joined the "Greens," or environmental lists, and other protest movements, or chosen to follow other political Pied

No-one can say for sure whether this will prove to have been more than a

seasonal fashion and a flash-in-the-pan. Politicians who now set their caps at confidence and credibility, two of the main slogans used in the youth debate, where mistrust and misunderstanding have predominated, are in for an un-

pleasant surprise. Much ground has been lost and it will not be easy to regain.

Yet no-one has so far shown for sure



whether youth protest in a free and democratic society is due to shaking social foundations or to a misunderstanding

of the state by young people. Christian Democratic Bundestag MP Matthias Wissmann, chairman of the Junge Union, or youth branch of the CDU/CSU Opposition in Bonn, is doubtless right in saying there is no thing as such protest, youth dropouts or youth violence in general.

The media may have overemphasised the contrasts between young people and their elders, but they undeniably exist. That was why there was a need to look into the reasons for a clash that is

upsetting the balance of society today more than it has done in the past. Political improvisation would not do much good. Neither would mutual recriminations, with which representatives of all parties are quick to let fire.

But it would be wrong to denote youth protest as the expression of an insuperable conflict in society today.

politics. There is no need to myssis them. They are high unemployment lack of prospects and loss of directed the tortuous path towards

ding US firms associated with

and try to back their winners.

This is a shortcoming, just as it is not strong as though nothing had enough to note that most young people pened despite the no-change situatake a fundamentally positive view as in Poland.

undermined. And as long as this is the case a con-

As long as the PLO maintains armed

units in the country the authority of any

central government can hardly fail to be

cial envoy, Mr Philip Habib.

Wanted: small miracle in

sensus between Lebanese Christians and Moslems and a merger of their mllitias in a new Lebanese army can be

As long as the PLO retains it arms the Christians will hold on to theirs, and so will the left-wing Moslems.

within a state.

And that is not just because Israel

#### **MORLD AFFAIRS**

# The tortuous path towards sweetness and light



Tt is back to routine after the Western Leconomic summit in Versailles, the Nato summit in Bonn and President Reagan's visit to Berlin.

So much for spectacular scenes, declarations of principles, proclamations, receptions and demonstrations. Mr Reagan is back in Washington and Herr Schmidt made a speech on disarmament to the UN General Assembly in New York.

The headlines are made by World Cup soccer in Spain, with fighting in the Middle East taking over from fighting in the Falklands.

Agreement was reached on the danger of inflation and the need for trade sanctions at Versailles, whereupon European Finance Ministers devalued the French franc and revalued the German

Was this move the first consequence of the Versailles aummit or a belated admission of national economic misma-

After the summits the world is certainly no better and no simpler, so it is hardly surprising that everyone was at pains to emphasis how well he had

President Reagan reassured his fellow-countrymen that the United States was respected again by its ailies and by the Soviet Union.

The European attributed to their persistent influence Mr Reagan's show of moderation and willingness to disarm.

It may all seem petty, but let us accept such national weaknesses if all the summitry is found to hold forth the slightest hope for the future.

This is certainly does, and largely on account of the change by the United

Now that Mr Reagan has offered to meet Mr Brezhnev as soon as possible and shown himself willing to negotiate and to coexist, now that he has submitted an abundance of disarmament proposals, life is so much easier for Nato.

Meeting in Bonn, the Nato leaders found it easy to say, as their basic policy principle, that: "Our aim is to estaolish a stable balance of power at as low a level as possible and thereby to strengthen peace and international

The earlier dispute over the definition of the North Atlantic pact was forgotten. In Bonn the Nato countries felt able to assure that the pact was an indipspensable means of deterring aggrestysion by effective defence and strengthsoning peace by a constructive dialogue. the To accuse President Reagan of haying used words too; strong in Berlin about the lack of freedom and about

dictatorship in the Soviet sphere is to forget the reality of the territory of the fit It is also to forget Nato's Bonn De-

claration, in which there was no healtation in referring to the system of violence in the Warsaw Pact,

Besides. Mr Reagan in his Berlin initiative offered flanking peace moves by the superpowers. That they were based

in detail on the Helsinki accords in no way detracts from their merit.

Yet there is no ground for confidence in the current appearance of sweetness and light in ties between America and Europe. Despite summit harmony they are still poles apart.

The distance can be judged by differences of viewpoint over the term detente. The Europeans, especially the Social and Free Democratic government in Bonn, invariably emphasise the benefit a divided Continent has derived from the policy of detente.

For the Europeans detente is a kind of limes, or boundary, behind which they can live in peace and dream.

But the Americans have always seen (and continue to see) detente in a global context and found a fair number of flies

They would like the Europeans to start thinking in global terms at last too. In the Bonn Declaration the Americans were given the thin end of the wedge, while the Europeans were ack-

nowledged their national rights. This may have been to their liking but basically it is a viewpoint that is egoistic and shortsighted. The world has grown so close together and interlinked that there is no longer anything in between.

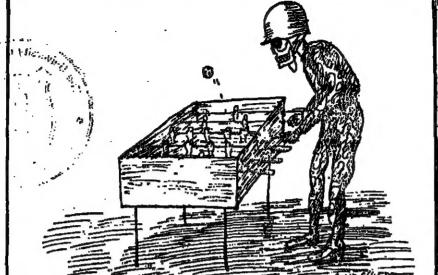
The Falklands fighting profoundly affected European interests. So does fighting in the Middle East. The Europeans are no longer in a position to keep out of it all.

It is not a matter of gaining fresh zones of influence or of being handmaildens of the Americans. Europeans must play their part to ensure that the process of emancipation in many parts of the world runs along lines of national self-determination and not in accordance with dictatorial rule.

The Europeans are going to have to change their outlook unless they want to be written off as provincial.

There is an uncanny connection at this point with the large numbers of mainly young people who demonstrated on the opposite bank of the Rhine to the Bonn summit: the peace marchers,

In many ways the young merely re-peated what the old had to say. They were worried. Fair enough, but no



power in the world can eliminate the nuclear risk and create a brave new

We can only try to prevent abuse, and those who behave in any other way are behaving egoistically and shortsightedly no matter how noble their motives may

They want to see themselves on some island of the blessed with boundary lines protecting individual spheres that

There must indeed be many change the FDP thinks that even if the CDU but less in the external world that it is an absolute majority, it would still

### Brezhnev fires off a damp nuclear propaganda squib

Mr Brezhnev's declaration that the Soviet Union solemnly undertakes not to be the first to use nuclear weapons had only a limited propagan-

'The declaration, read out by Foreign Minister Gromyko, was intended to show up Nato as an aggressor.

But it failed. Nato cannot be accused of warmongering just because it has not greeted the Soviet announcement with houts of delight.

Nato's declared standpoint actually goes much further than the Soviet. Nato has undertaken not to be the first to use weapons of any kind against its potential enemy, the Warsaw Pact nations.

The West might feel inclined to pay more attention to the Soviet leader's somewhat vague statement that the ideas of the nuclear freeze movement have much in common with those held by the Kremlin.

# Would nuclear disarmament mean a safer planet?

Proposals for greater security in the world were submitted to the second monstrators at times make it out to be. sembly on disarmament

Similar proposals were made in 1978. But this time, the doubts about the wisdom and ability of diplomats and statesmen to end the vicious circle of armament have grown.

This point was made by Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to the Coneral

Demonstrations in both Bonn and New York, he said, had clearly shown that the demonstrators were not just idealistic pacifists and naive utopians.

Women's associations, thurches, medical groups and trade unions went on to the streets in the United States to protest against the arms build-up in East and West.

special session of the UN General As- If the nuclear powers were to take up heir suggestion and lay down nuclear weapons once and for all, the earth would not necessarily be a safer place.

World war might even be more likely, given that existing means of destruction are a deterrent.

Ways must be found, as Herr Schmidt told the UN, of negotiating for regional balance and of evolving partnerships in security. Above all, confidene must be established between those who are in a position to negotiate and guarantee security."

And they are the leaders of the two majors pacts. The ball is now in the US court, but even more clearly in that of the Soviet Union. Emil Bölte (Lubecker Nachrichten, 15 June 1982)

It was interesting to note that the

Senators. But if Moscow believes that its its are virtually identical with the nuden freeze people, it is mistaken. Senset there verheugen tried to appear un-Kennedy and Senator Hatfield sim by sturbed when he said that the shift of their proposal to achieve more than the Hesse FDP to the CDU as a coaliered to nuclear tests and the manufacture and deployment of nuclear we in Bonn, he know very well that

heads.

That is not what they have demand to apposite was true.

Veneugen, who opposed the decipowers. They insist on it all being one trolled, which presupposes details agreement on the shape controls and all being one agreement on the shape controls and all being one agreement on the shape controls and all being one as well.

agreement on the shape controls and take.

Yet Mr Gromyko's UN speech other wise sounded an encouraging note, as spite its polemics against the Unit States and Nato. He referred to the viet government's intention of holds wide-ranging arms control negotiated.

That is the right way, the only of proach to take, to rescue the world of the brink of destruction and to allevist growing fears in East and West of west growing fears in East and West growing fears in East and West growing fears in East and West growing fears growing

tion.

Emil Bolts

Westdeutsche Allgemeine, 17 Junt 100

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Printed by Druck- und Verlagshaus Friedrich Poor.

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The complete translations of the original text
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HOME AFFAIRS

# State FDP to drop Social Democrats and run with CDU in election

The Hesse FDP has decided to leave the od coalition with the SPD at the elecin September and back the CDU.

the FDP did not decide to swap alleglance from the SPD to the CDU in Hase because of a new-found liberaby shadow prime minister Alfred

I moved because of panic. It hopes Mit can ride on the back of the CDU the election in September and stay in mie as kingmaker.

The FDP thinks that even if the CDU people's minds, both old and young. Impage to get more than the essential 5

It is truth we should be seeking there ent of the ballot simply by changfortune, Carl Friedrich von Weizsich biglieglance.

It alone can point the way himburg where it stuck by the SPD.
the coexistence we need if manking Regardless whether it works out this Heinrich Stubbs her Merkur/Christ and Walling that the FDP decision might be 18 June 1990 incourage in its assessment of Ham-(Cartoon: Murschetz/Didi key, what matters is how it all will af-

> Could it result in Chancellor shaid's resignation as demanded by lither Geissler (CDU) and Friedrich Emmermann (CSU)?

his curious that the persons concerwire themselves somewhat confused. his not often that one comes across viet text made no mention of the mil whitefreshing straightforwardness in controlled, which is so important by loss FDP general secretary Gunther

Interior Minister Gerhart Baum

Mischnick said that nobody had

leart in the shift to the CDU.

partners publicly stated an inten-

to make a change - and that after

and PDP in Hesse, was

hemenhip that, as in the case of the

Hamburg election meant for the Bonn coalition. "We both got a punch in the nose from the voters," he said.

The conclusion is that the causes of the defeat should be examined jointly and that day-to-day politics should demonstrate the further course of Social-'Liberal policy, Verheugen said.

And right he is. The half-hearted government reshuffle after the SPD congress in Munich and the employment programme - of which only the proposed rent legislation has actually reached the public - are hardly enough.

Regardless of Hamburg and Hesse. the way things stand at the moment the FDP-SPD coalition government in Bonn should not find it too hard to reach the public on a central issue: international politics.

The Economic Summit in Versailles and the Nato Summit in Bonn showed both the need for and the lack of coordinated international crisis preven-

And the military conflicts in the Middle East and the South Atlantic have made it clear how little such political tenets as moderation and commonsense can be taken for granted.

What transpired from the two summit meetings is dramatic; growing egotism world trade relations and a growing militarisation of international conflicts.

be it between East and West or between North and South.

There are only two bright spots in the general darkening of world politics sin-ce Sait II (Carter-Brezhnev meeting In Vienna in June 1979) and the ineffectual North-South Summit in Cancun; the current Geneva talks between the superpowers on Euro-missiles and START, the US-USSR talks on the reduction of strategic weapons, beginning this month.

Both these events are partly due to German efforts to hold on to detente despite severe setbacks.

Bonn's sticking to its basic principles also put its stamp on the Versailles talks, where Chancellor Schmidt opposed a "trade war" with the East, and on a Nato document following the Bonn meeting, expressly avowing the Alliance's commitment to the spirit of détente.

Provided the coalition leaders see this as an objective that extends beyond everyday Bonn politics, they will have enough reason to stay together for the . time boing.

This is still on political area where there is a basic difference between SPD/FDP and CDU/CSU views.

Granted. CDU Chairman Helmut Kohl is also trying to moderate his right wing. His speech at his party's Bonn demonstration in favour of Ronald Reagan was relatively restrained.

But the opposition's foreign policy profile in the past year or so has again been dominated by CSU Chairman Franz Josef Strauss and his Bonn spokesman, Friedrich Zimmermann.

Strauss' criticism of the double Nato decision (which he calls "illogical") and the Social-Liberal détente policy ("wrongly conceived") along with the rejection of the new strategy discussion within Nato and the CDU by Friedrich Zimmermann indicate a remarkable political rigidity.

This rigidity resembles the dogmatism of American right wingers who now find themselves increasingly disappointed by Reagan.

Experience so far with the balance of power between Kohl and Strauss shows that there is little reason to assume that the CDU opposition to Bonn's present foreign policy would become immaterial if Kohl formed a government, despite assurances to the contrary...

It is the foreign policy element that provides the coalition with an edge at

It is up to Schmidt and Genscher to decide how much importance they attach to the continuity of their detente policy in an era of increased tension,

They must take this as a yardstick in determining what is and what is not tolerable to them in matters of domestic

Werner A. Perget (Deutsches Aligemoines Sonningsbiett, 13 June 1982)

## Hesse move curtain-raiser for Bonn: sole question is timing



Günther Verheugen

(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken) "always marked by great mutual faith and the willingness to arrive at a compromise."

Tolerance of or coalition with the CDU, as in Lower Saxony, the Saarland and Berlin are of an entirely different

The past few months saw growing indications of a gradual shift. The indicators were coalition statements of varying degrees of clarity: wishy-washy in Lower Saxony and fairly clear in Ham-

These indicators also included discussions within the PDP Parliamentary Group in which the possibility of a cooperation with the conservatives was no longer as categorically excluded as be-

The clearest indications, however, came from Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff and Foreign Minister Genscher during the budgetary discussions last autumn when the two FDP politicians planted a stumbling block in the form of what has become known in this country as Karenziage (a certain number of days during which no sick leave would be paid).

Though at the time Genscher removed this stumbling block when he realised that his party and Parliamentary Group were ill prepared for a break, the SPD was made aware of what was in store for it.

FDP members who are convinced that the Bonn coalition is nearing its end - not beause they want this but simply because the voters no longer suppor it - also realise that it is too late now for a shift in Bonn.

In any event, they have meanwhile redrafted their concept to the point where the FDP in Bonn will no longer seek or try to bring about such a break.

This would spare it from bearing the responsibility for such unpleasant actions as toppling the Chancellor, a constructive vote of no confidence, resignations by cabinet members and similar moves.

Bavaria's FDP has moderated or discontinued its attacks on Franz Josef

Strauss. And further state elections are likely to provide additional proof of the FDP's trend towards a coalition with

Should Bonn's brittle coalition last until 1984, a major event could (as in 1969) be the election of a new federal president: the two major parties are again short of an absolute majority; which means that the FPD will again act as the kingmaker for the others or for one of its own. Either way, it will have to seek an ally, be it the CDU or

But all this sounds simpler than it is. The SPD is now on the alert.

Both parties are keeping away from budget disussions. This could continue for some time. Each could put a match to the fuse at will.

It is difficult to see how a coalition whose members are watching each other with great mistrust — each walting for the other to take a step — can

A SALE OF SALES AND SALES OF SALES

get through the summer recess or, indeed, survive the autumn, especially with a Chancellor who has lost some of his bravado.

The SPD leadership (both in the party and the Parliamentary Group) will have to summon all its strength to stay on course.

After all, most means of mollification and disciplining, such as cabinet reshuffles and votes of confidence. have been exhausted.

Klaus Dreher (Suddeutsche Zeitung, 12 June (982)

# Lessons of the Falklands war not lost on German naval experts



The war at sea in the South Atlantic has led to the question in Germany whether or not there is any point in maintaining a navy.

Vice-Admiral Günter Fromm, C-in-C of the Bundesmarine, answered questions on naval armament at Olpenitz, the Baltic naval base near Kicl.

The Baltic was his operational area but the Falklands fighting was very much in people's minds, especially, Argentina's success with the French Exocet missiles.

"Must not all ocean-going navies, especially Soviet units including cruisers the size of battleships, now fear for their survival in future engagements?" he was asked.

Admiral Fromm's answer was not a straight yes or no. For one, the Argentinians were lucky in that Royal Navy ships had aluminium superstructures that easily caught fire.

Unlike solid steel, aluminium burns at temperatures over 600 degrees centi-

British destroyers and frigates also had to operate in the South Atlantic without the air cover that would normally be provided, as part of Nato planning for the North Atlantic, by the large US

They were designed and built in the early 70s with carrier protection in mind, and no-one envisaged them being used in conditions such as existed in the Falklands zone.

Admiral Fromm was full of praise for the seamanship in running well over 100 ships for weeks from one end of the Atlantic to the other, in setting up a blockade round a heavily occupied group of Islands and in then winning despite operations being restricted for political reasons....

He saw no reason why Soviet naval strategic command needed changing as a result of the Falklands campaign.

Alongside the construction of submarines of all kinds, over 400 of them, Moseow continued to regard conventionai navai armament as an important means of consolidating its world power status on a par with that of the United

The Soviet Union had shown that despite a shortage of bases it was able to keep its warships stationed all over the world for long periods at a time.

This naval presence had a political effect on governments in Asia and Africa and could only be challenged by the use of force.

Admiral Fromm mentioned in this context the comments of Admiral Gorshkov of the Red Fleet who had frankly noted that stopping up paval armament was the best way to reach the top in power politics.

Already the strategic submarines and ocean-going warships of the Red Fleet are concentrated in such numbers in the ports on the Kola peninsula that Nato's northern command is seriously worried.

It is doubtful now whether northern Norway or Iceland could be defended if full-scale war were waged. Britain's decision to go it alone in the South At-

lantic will certainly have increased the

Admiral Fromm dld not expressly say so, but his outline of the position allowed no other conclusion.

The Exocet problem, however, was more serious for the Red Fleet than it was for Nato navies, which currently hoped to counter the missile threat by means of the Ram anti-missile system.

The system is being developed by the United States jointly with the Federal Republic of Germany and Denmark.

The Soviet Union, as far as is known, not only has yet to come by any means of defending its units from Exocet missile attacks; it does not have comparable missiles of its own to use in attack

Soviet missiles are larger than their Western counterparts, travel slower and do not skim the water beneath the radar shield as the Exocet does.

They keep to an altitude of about 30 metres and can thus be combated by Western anti-missile missiles of various

In the Baltic, where the Warsaw Pact's largest concentration of warships of limited tonnage is stationed, the Russians could expect if they were to launch an attack to encounter Nato units equipped with over 200 Exocet

This is the main strength of the modernised, German flotilla of motor tornedo boats. As a part of Nato the Bundesmarine's operational role is on the pact's northern flank.

Destroyers, frigates, anti-submarine ighters and reconnaissance aircraft are pased at Withelmshaven on the North Sea, as are the Bundesmarine's subma-

Their presence enables other Nato countries to allocate naval units for operations outside the North Atlantic and other Nato waters.

This Britain has been doing in its own interest in the South Atlantic. The next time may see naval units heading for the Porsian Gulf, in which case they will undeniably be there in the general

Commanding officers of motor torpedo boat flotillas, minelayers, minesweepers and supply units in the Baltic are convinced they are in a position to safeguard sealinks between the North Sea and the Baltic.

Together with the Danish and Norwegian fleets they are capable of securing sea routes between the Atlantic and the Baltic, while collaboration with the Dutch navy should ensure protection from attack via the North Sea.

Amphibious operations by Soviet, Polish and GDR units on the Baltic coast of Schleswig-Holstein in support of an attack on the central front in Germany could be hampered or even brought to a halt by the Bundesmarine's Baltic capacity.

This will definitely be the case when, in the none too remote future, the Bundesmarine is fitted out with Tornado

The arguments put forward by leading naval officers have nothing of the flavour of Kaiser Wilhelm's pride in his naval build-up. Even in lengthy debates there is not a trace of dreadnought tra-

The Bundesmarine is led by levelheaded experts who know what they are talking about when they explain that the Baltic fleet will soon consist only of a new generation of missile-currying motor torpedo boats.

They are convinced that their main problem will be to reduce reaction times in the event of attack.

On board with speeds of up to 35 knots they explain how command and communications systems are being largely automated by means of data pro-

The sophistication of modern naval management is demonstrated by a logistical capacity that has made it possible. using tenders, ammunition transporters, workshop ships and special craft, to keep units based at sea for months on

That is why the navy, including even other ranks, has a feeling of freedom of movement that is not as strongly developed among land forces.

# Apel confirms no change in nuclear strategy

Bonn Desence Minister Hans Apel atrike, there can be no change in the present strategy. use of nuclear weapons.

He kept his views to himself and looked on while the debate originating prompt a response from defence experts of all political parties.

It was only to be expected that the criticism by four US security experts of Nato's flexible response strategy, which based on the first nuclear strike, would gain even more attention in the Federal Republic of Germany than it did in America.

Dr Apel's arguments for rejecting any idea of renouncing the first nuclear strike are plausible yet disappointing,

As the Western alliance is evidently neither able nor willing to substantially increase its conventional forces as the prerequisite for renunciation of the first

This military logic is proving steadily less satisfactory in the Federal Republic, where many short-range tactical nuclear weapons are based that in the event of hostilities would be more dangerous to us than to the aggressor.

The political parties' experts have shown greater sensitivity to public

Views may differ on the arguments advanced by Egon Bahr, Jürgen Möllemann and Manfred Wörner on behalf of the SPD, the FDP and the CDU respectively.

But by virtue of detailed proposals on how the nuclear threshold could be raised higher they make it clear that the mere automatic character of the current strategy is no longer entirely trusted.

(Stiddeutsche Zeitung, 11 Jung. 1982)

Even in the limited operational LABOUR ditions of the Bundesmarine to cians and specialists can be reco with a prospect of seeing somethin

In the United States recruitment long made play with the idea of an venture navy, and many young

serving in the navy learn trades the

put to good use in civvy street. That is why the navy is the brand the armed forces that has more one Stageursche Lettung and NCOs than other ranks.

The figures are straightforward desmarine mannower includes 5.500 licers, 15,500 NCOs and 17,350 of ranks. They are 22 per cent profes alon in Geneva has recommended nals, 51 per cent short-service ment flowing over-65s who want to carry on only 27 per cent conscripts.

They man a service based not on a risome ambition but on realisation of own limitations, but one senses the ment to create jobs for the unem-curity derived from knowledge of the ment to create jobs for the unemthey can do in the given circumstant is ILO recommendation. Gerd Ressin

### Conscripts will sade for job sharing of one kind or anserve a longer term

sent, Defence Minister Hans Apal of hispods at the price of asking. told the Bundestag.

President Reagan arrived in Bona. | wanted down to find customers. The news was intended to deman strate to the United States the earned statether a product is competitive,

It was also a further reminderally whow many people it can employ. American systems. The Bundessett is (in the sense of the number of jobs largely a conscript army; the US and allable) declines when labour on offorces are all regulars.

commitments by the Germans in the kyoung at the expense of the old. fence sector.

has come as no surprise.

1984 the number of conscripts will to him or her with someone else.

dily decline as the low birth-rate 62 his will certainly not be the case as bies reach fighting age.

From 1987 the number of conscious exement is that he is younger, out of available will no longer be enough wat and available.

meet manpower requirements, while yet many are in favour of some kind the 90s there will be an estimated in fine redistribution because the econotage of 100,000 soldiers.

enough, it merely reduces demand hyment. 32,000 men. Other measures will be drown rates of between four and to follow, such as a reduction in the per cent are needed if full employ-number of men exempted and that is to be restored by the end of the conscription of older men, women to take, but the best that seems likely is

foreign nationals.

And more long-service recruits keral forecasts suggest that this need to be signed on and reserving the mean nearly four million Ger-

# Theory: push retirement age up, not down



the International Labour Organisa-

k is a recommendation that seems to fin the face of labour market theories. Most people would favour early reti-

If economic yardsticks such as the (Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und en geprische Ground gebruicht und en geprische Ground gebruicht der g

> Induction capacity and employment sportunities would be known factors ind the point could be argued.

But in practice prices regulate supply midemand. When a manufacturer can whoger sell his products and has to Bundeswehr conscripts will have tack staff, what it means is that custo-serve 18 month instead of 15 am are no longer interested in buying tated not mean there is no demand

He made the announcement the of latte product. It would merely have to bosts, a crucial factor in determin-

Germany's defence commitment. ( whether a company flourishes distinction between the German why he same token, the demand for

kbecomes too expensive. Indirectly Bonn was thus hinting the Before we price ourselves out of the once this move was made the United with we must cut costs, and this canStates could not expect higher mater at he achieved by reallocating jobs to

This saves the company not a penny. Longthening the conscription positions not stand to grow more competiby sending an experienced skilled It will be indispensable because to sorter into early retirement and replac-

the as all that is known about the re-

his to weak that it cannot be long be-Making conscripts serve longer in the there is a drastic increase in unem-

The Defence Ministry is well are to flow by the end of 1989.
that only a combination of moves to bonn is going to have to do

that only a combination of moves at a sonn is going to have to do be enough to meet the manpower mand, and they will all be a burder mand, and they will all be a burder the individual.

But there can be no avoiding the forgovernment intervention, as opneed for them to be taken, unless the forgovernment intervention, as opneed for them to be taken, unless the forgovernment intervention, as opneed for them to be taken, unless that the spiralling vice personnel.

That would make a complete charm in the first place could be offset by

But the process cannot be triggered indiscriminately. Sins of the past, such as expecting too much on a plate, will for some time continue to have after-

Even so, the interplay of costs and profits and costs and jobs shows how illsuited a redistribution of existing jobs is to climinate the causes of underemploy-

If anything, it could be expected to aggravate the situation. If the burden had to be borne by society as a whole, everyone would be increasingly obliged to take in their belts a notch or two.

The consequence would almost certainly appear to be the loss of even more jobs.

Besides, early retirement would virtually bankrupt the pension scheme, which for years has been on the brink of failing to make ends meet.

Since 1957 the pensions system has been based on a contract between the generations, with pensions being paid from the contributions of people in em-

Those who retired early would reduce still further the declining band of contributors and artificially increase the number of pensioners.

Higher contributions would be the only way to make ends meet. If retirement were to be at 60 instead of 65, social security contributions would have to be increased by 50 per cent. So early retirement, even though it

has been widely debated as a possible solution to the problem of unemployment, will be seen on closer scrutiny to have more disadvantages than advanta-

Once early retirement is introduced, any further progress in this sector cun be ruled out.

People may still attach greater impor-

tance to leisure than to job commitments, but there are already signs that they are less keen on more spare time when it means less pay.

In the past the two have been combined. People have worked less and still had more money in their pockets, But those days are over, or so it would

The ILO proposal to allow older workers who want to do so to work longer is not really practicable.

The range and number of jobs suitable for older people would first need to be increased substantially, and few firms, if any, have even made a start in this direction.

But the proposal bears thinking about in view of future trends that are overshadowed by current problems. In the 90s demographers expect a dramatic change in the situation.

As a result of the decline in birth rates due to the advent of the Pill and the growing number of old people there will be a shortage of people of working age that knocks all previous labour shortages into a cocked hat.

#### idea for 1990s

So in the 90s it might well make sense to increase either the number of working hours per week or the length of people's working lives.

But until then we will have to deal with entirely different problems that are unlikely to be solved by administrative measures such as lowering retirement

It is to the ILO's credit to have drawn attention to the consequences, and the proposal itself is not so much the point. Anyone who reaches the age of 65 in reasonable health will probably be keen

to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. Yet there may be some who would sooner carry on working in some way or another, and they ought not to be prohibited from doing so if that is what they

> Norbert Styrm (Süddeutsche Zoltung, 12 June 1982)

### Why they don't want to take holidays

The Japanese are reputed among A German company executives to be almost mediaeval in their loyalty to

Japanese sociologists say that most Japanese are reluctant to take their an-

They feel it is a privilege and tend to regard it as a reserve in which to recover from illness or celebrate family occasions for which extra leave is usually granted in Europe,

There is a growing tendency by Germans to go without holidays too. Does that make them good employees?

It depends on your point of view. Why don't people want to take boli-

The travel trade suggests people are short of money. But that cannot be the main reason, otherwise people would merely stay at home.

But 10.6 million people out of a working population of about 27 million choose to keep working instead. Most do for fear of being given the sack.

In an em of high unemployment the fear of redundancy is real, especially among less qualified staff with fewer Not taking holidays is not in the in-

terest of social progress or workers' health. It is also not exactly a gesture of solidarity with the unemployed. Workers who don't take their annual

holidays save companies the trouble and expense of hiring extra staff. The current ruling is that holidays not taken by the end of the following

suggested that people should be required by law to take their holidays. This might reduce the number of people out of work but it would be a strange reversal of the general trend in

labour and social legislation!

March are forfeited. It has been

(Nümberger Nachrichten, 8 June 1982)

# The old should be allowed to work on, says psychologist



lans for early retirement to reduce unemployment should be abandoned, says Ursula Lehr, head of the partment of psychology at Bonn Uni-

She feels they would be a crime against most older people for whom work is part of the spice of life. Professor Lehr draws this conclusion from a long-term probe into ageing in

which 20 older people were kept under observation over a period of 17 years. The data of people who have survived to old age in fine physical and menal health clearly show that an active

life is likely to be a long one. Genetic factors, education, intelligence, personality and eating habits are contributory aspects, but activity definitely tends to prolong life.

"Solitude and boredom are deadly," she says. "Those who stay physically and mentally active, plan for the future, maintain contacts and have a purpose in life live longer.

"In old age work is a source of wellbeing. Consideration ought to be given to ways and means of enabling people to work beyond the present retirement age of 65. Many people could live longer if they were able to work

Many pensioners polied as part of the survey said they still feit capable of holding down a job but were no longer

It was wrong to say that work generally led to wear and tear on people. It was not primarily felt to be unpleasant. People didn't just work for the money. It also enabled them to get to know

. In the debate on early retirement many surveys are said to have found that working people relish the prospect

They will then at long last be able to get a good night's sleep, to travel and to find time for their hobbies. But once they have retired they take a

different view, Professor Lehr says. The

opportunity of sleeping longer soon loses its charms. Many pensioners are desperately keen to find a job to keep themselves busy. The deluge of applications to join the senior peace corps planned in Bonn

is typical, she claims. Working beyond retirement age must be voluntary, of course. There are people for whom early retirement would be good because they are worn out by hea-

vy manual labour or working shifts. But most people would rather carry on working, so the most sensible solution could be a gradual transition to retirement, possibly beginning with a sixhour day or four-day week for older workers.

Professor Lehr says early retirement does not make economic sense either. The experience of older people, who tend to be particularly responsible and hard-working, would be allowed to go

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 8 Jung 1982)

The latest AEG rescue bid raises at

at of fair play. Plans to rejig the group

nit can hope to run at a profit will

M what about the Bauknecht wor-

ned a shot in the arm from the state.

TRADE

# After Versailles, a matter of interpretation



Helmut Schmidt had a rough time during the Versailles Economic Summit of the seven leading Western

The election in Hamburg, his home city, could well have decided his own political destiny; and at the summit the trump cards were held by people who favour a tougher and better coordinated trade policy towards the Soviet Union. Such a policy runs counter to German

The Federal Republic of Germany is the only major Western industrial nation bordering directly on the Soviet Bloc. It has to live with that fact. ...

. In its bid to find a middle-of-the-road approach, the Federal Republic seeks civilised relations with the Soviet emp-

For the United States, thre position is different, The Americans know that much in the Soviet Bloc has only been made possible through Western credits. Repayment of these are by no means ensured, either, because the East Bloc owes so much to the West.

So the Americans would like to see East-West deals reduced to strictly enforced commercially feasible propor-

Hungarian delegate to the 36th

A Comecon conference in Budapest

Josef Bognar, president of the Hun-

garian Institute for the World Econo-

has called for economic reforms

throughout the East Bloc.

This is the formula agreed on by the seven at Versailles. But it is formula open to interpretation by both Americans and Germans and one which can easily enough be bent to suit national

This was clearly demonstrated in the remarks on the European-Soviet natural gas deal on the one hand and American grain shipments to the Soviet Union on

President Reagan found it easy enough to defend his country's grain deals in terms of this formula: the Soviets have to pay cash.

The gas-pipeline deal, on the other hand, the Americans complain, is a credit transaction that increases the East Bloc's debt to the West and reduces its creditworthiness.

What it all boils down to is that the USA would like to embark on a mild trade war with the Soviet Union as was customary before the "invention" of free trade in the 18th century.

According to the mercantilistic precepts of that era, any deal that strengthened the partner was bad while those deals that weakened him - or at least made him dependent - were

Consequently, food shipments for cash that deplete the gold and foreign exchange reserves of the Soviet Union are good, while technology transfer on n oredit is bad, who were the man and

These transfers of technology streng-

then the Soviet Bloc without making it pay much in return.

As the Americans see it, the credits in connection with such deals can be repaid through the goods produced by this technology.

Seen in a mercantilistic light, this is sound logic which the Americans see as being clearly demonstrated by the gaspipeline deal: Europe supplies the Soviets with the equipment needed to develop its Siberian gasfield and the Soviet Union pays for it by shipping gas.

Such a deal, which makes sense if concluded between equal partners, is tolerable for the Europeans because it eases neighbourly relations with an alien system.

The Americans deplore it because it favours the enemy.

There can be no doubt that both sides are right from their own vantage point.

The Versailles compromise formula flexible enough to only just permit the gas deal because the financing of the credit is still feasible. But it precludes a second deal of similar size between Europe and the East Bloc, thus restricting the policy of active East-West trade.

The question as to how East-West trade can be expanded still further remains. The two systems are simply too different to permit extensive partnership relations.

One prerequisite for an active East-West trade would be a more consumeroriented Soviet policy at home and a more attractive range of goods for export to the West. But the Soviet Union has little to offer other than raw mate-

Seen in this light, even the Federal Republic of Germany can live with the Versailles formula. Bernd Hansen

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 13 June 1982)

# Comecon delegate calls for East bloc economic change

my, said the East Bloc should be more flexible and open-minded about world He wanted more harmonious ties betsures and more attention to market forween individual East Bloo economies

and more attention paid to specific The agenda included not only the ced in Budanest.

customary periodic cordination of trade and production plans within the organinon-rouble area in a bid to keep pace sation but also an analysis of the global sconomic situation and its It is obvious that the main reason for effects on Comecon.

One topic was how to reduce the mormous debt to the West of individual Comecon members.

Poland and Rumania are now barely in a position to meet the repayment term loans of almost US\$50bm.

in view of this amount the US\$80bn overall debt assumed for Começon seems too low.

For the first time in Comecon's histo-Ty, the conference also saw an official exchange of views on far-reaching reforms in the organisation's foreign trade and monetary policy.

he The position of some of the member countries now seems to make reforms that have been delayed for so long mandatory. New moves for a development strategy that would improve Comecon's position on international markets are

Certain statements by leading East Bloc economists seem to indicate that these reforms will include mnetary mea-

Even Soviet economists seized upon some some of the reform demands voi-

Another Hungarlan demand was that Comecon should export more to the

with the West's technological progress.



these Hungarian proposals was to en-"sure Hungary's own commercial freedoms and that country's high economic standard. More than half of Hungary's trade is now with the West.

... Leading: Soviet economist Professor Oleg Bogomolov was more cautious, He favoured more trade with the West but he wanted it to include more finished

He accused the West of deliberately exporting its own economic woes

through its credit policies.
Understandably, Rogomolov failed to mention that it is the non-prolitability of planned economies that has made \*Western credits too expensive for Comecon countries. He also failed to men-

tion the unrealistic prices and the trade and monetary monopoly that the individual Comecon countries maintain.

He called for intensified division of labour, better coordination of the fiveyear plans, regulation of supply and demand via rices and more scope of decision for the individual plants.

The Hungarian and Yugoslav models were clearly in evidence.

There was another tricky question that had to be dealt with by the East Bloc prime ministers: supplying the 350 million people in the Bloc with consumer goods. Except for Hungary, the position is deplorable.

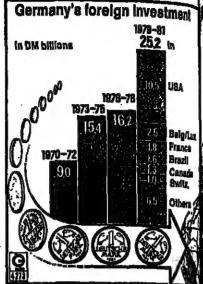
After Poland and Rumania, it is now the Soviet Union itself that is threatened with a collapse of the supply system (following three poor harvests in a row).

As a result, the objective was to achieve a better distribution of available supplies within Comecon - which is somewhat at odds with the wishes of those Comecon nations that depend on their sales of high quality food and consumer goods for their foreign exchange.

There is no way of preventing a further deterioration of the suply position without grain imports from America.

"The fact that the beginning of the conference was marked by Hungary's increasing prices for super, diesel and heating oil by 15 per cent clearly shows the problems confronting Comecon. Gustav Chaluna

(Der Tagesspiegel, 9 June 1982)



# High Noon again for a troubled AEG

is is running short for ailing industrial giant AEG-Telefunken, of Frankfurt and and the Bronning about 107 anning haustrial grant AEG-1 eletunken, of Frankfurt and will, selle. The group is about DM5bn in the red and needs at least DM3bn help. heaging director Heinz Dürr has put together a plan to salvage the complete the salvage of the backed jointly by Bonn, the Länder, the banks, the staff, share-direct, bondholders and an industrial partner. If only one of these groups breaks that this third and possibly final rescue bid for AEG could fail, and doubts have alsely been raised about Herr Dürr's package.

### The successes The latest A point of order and arguably behind the headlines The last rescue bid, based on the pri-

he Europeans and the America beaner Bank's Hans Friderichs, was a have for months been engaged a silver.

fierce dispute over US interest rates of Yet there is no point in standing on the Siberian gas deal with the Soviet propels when over 100,000 jobs are in The headlines are dominated by standy. If the state can help, it cusations of protectionism and thould But can it? That is the question. growing dispute over trade in stell . What justification can there be for honstanding surety for a DM1bn loan

The decisions of the International AEG-Telefunken, and the Lander Trade Commission (America's authorithing out individual AEG works, if watching over imports) promote their butnecht are not to be helped too? pression that German-American form Butnecht also manufacture consutrade relations are now governed hardwebles such as refrigerators and mutual criticism and general sol rating machines and employ a payroll d 12000. The company has called in

It is worth taking a look behinding familyers. nalistic facades.

German direct investments in the bal Do they have any less right than United States have risen from DMSOM 160 workers to having their jobs shoto DM15bn in the past 12 years. At lest at up by an injection of government 450 German companies now product with Is the state entitled to take sides in their goods in America.

Some 2.000 companies are now more to market and if it is, what are its bers of the German-American Chanter duncet of success? The consumer du-of Commerce. Half of them are not make the in the doldrums for two diaries of German firms; and the manns.

diaries of German firms; and the manage of German companies in Andrew of German business command the observations of German business command the observations of German-Andrew of States have been frighted that the of economy. Two years of high relations.

It is true that potential investors that the of economy. Two years of high relations.

It is true that potential investors that the of economy. Two years of high relations.

It is true that potential investors that the of economy. Two years of high relations.

It is true that potential investors that the off to make their mark.

Off by the see-sawing economic and the observation of the US administration.

But even so, the DM3.4bn German and the observation of the other main contributory factor is the exployment and a decline in pursually the see-sawing economic and the observations power in real terms could hard-late to make their mark.

Asserw washing machine can easily the average family half a month's the average family half a month's the industry was banking on energy-line products proving a profitable of prices have declined.

Naturally, the failures of German and the observation of the obs

always be blamed on others. toge heaters, but the sales boom was

In some cases they are due to unit alived. liarity with the market and the technique capacity is due not only to logical standards in the United Successful standard

the num at a profit nowadays is the The formerly flourishing exchange who has opted for automation.

trainces, and executives between a Goods are manufactured in increaturited States and Germany is flagging by long runs by fewer and fewer

ed washing machines, refrigerators, freezers and stoves at 17 factories.

Bosch and Siemens, AEG's major domestic competitors, were quicker to sense the shape of things to come and agreed in 1967 to join forces in manufacturing household goods.

They realised that the only survivors in the market would be the manufacturers who turned out long runs profitably, relying on a high degree of automa-

Bauknecht were also tempted to plunge headlong into growth. They did so too fast and with too little regard for financial safety. That brought them into their present predicament, which could he curtains.

Yet Bauknecht's position in respect of production and the market is far from bad. Neither is AEG's. But they both lack the cash to last the distance.

Ought Baden-Württemberg to bail out Bauknecht to save 1,000 jobs each in Schorndorf and Calw now that AEG have decided to shut down the former Zanker works in Tübingen?

Ought Bayaria to invest DM300m in AEG's household goods division in Nuremberg, as ABG sincerely hope it will? Baden-Württemberg und Bavaria would end up competing for the market in an industry still bedevilled by surplus ca-

Capacity would still be surplus to requirements. Competition would continue, with the winner taking all and the loser being elbowed out of the market.

still running at a profit? Is it to be Bosch or Siemens? AEG, the penniless glant, has a 20per-cent share of the market but is ope-

rating at a loss. The management has decided to shut down next year its Zanker division in Tübingen and Küppersbusch in Gelsen-

How can profits be made in such a sit-

uation and who is to be the loser?

Must it be Miele, a family firm that is

kirchen. It has no choice. In the first stage of the bid to streamline the group and get it out of the red five of the 17 consumer durables factories were shut down.

The remaining dozen still employ 19,500 people who between them account for over DM3bn in turnover, and when Tübingen and Gelsenkirchen shut down there will still be ten.

The group cannot afford to keep units going that manufacture virtually the same products and compete with each other for the market.

Neither can the state, especially as its intervention could bring other companies into difficulties that have so far managed to trade successfully under their own steam.

Even so, AEG-Telefunken is bleeding to death, figuratively speaking, because of the burden of interest payments on cash it had to borrow because it jacked resources of its own.

Managing director Heinz Dürr says the bid will need backing from industry, banks and insurance companies, the staff, Bonn and the Länder. But AEG can be rescued and is worth rescuing.

Management, the unions and the state he says, have to join forces nowadays to keep industries going that must be kept going to retain the technology and

There is no other line of defence against the Japanese attack, he says, and he may well be right.

The collapse of AEG would certainly shake the German economy, but the rescue bid has consequences for an economic and social system that is still felt (and feels itself) to be market-orientated. They are consequences the significance of which many politicians and businessmen are not even prepared to admit to themselves. Georg Heller

(Deutsches Aligemeines Sonntagsblatt, 13 June 1982)

# Mannesmann pushes profit through its pipelines

Mannesmann are doing well, not only in pipes but also in machanical engineering and power station construction, and the current upturn comes after substantial gains last year.

In 1981 turnover increased by 18 per cent to DM15.4bn, with pipes continuing to account for the lion's share of the

Despite diversification in recent years pipes made up 41 per cent of consolidated turnover.

The group made a profit on its commercial operations. It also made one on pipes, which are in the red in 1980, Restructuring in the group's steel and pipe works has paid dividends.

United States and Germany is liagant to jump on this bandwarn of a growing island mentality to both sides of the Atlantic should be added reason for the German business and the state another to make sure of beworried sights on anti-American worried sights on anti-American worried sights on anti-American community to go beyond rivating the No. 1.

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Kienzie Apparatebau OmbH was DM30m in the red.

Kienzle is expected by Mannesmann managing director Egon Overbeck to be working at a profit again by the end of

A remarkable feature of trading in 1981 was the further increase in foreign business to 68 per cent. The annual surplus was DM90m up

at DM272m, of which DM116m were registered as profits. A DM6 dividend will be paid for 1981, as against DM5.50 in recent years.

In July basic capital is to be increased by a nominal DM124m to a total DM1.116m.

Investments last year reached a record DM668m, including DM500m at home, of which the lion's share was ploughed into pipes and steelworks.

Between 1982 and 1985 Mannesmann plans to invest DM750m a year in plant and equipment.

> Norbert Welter (Rheinlscher Merkur/Christ und Well. gie kan ber 1982)

### **US** steel levies tolerable - Lambsdorff

#### DIE WELT

merican levies on steel imports A from the EEC, although undesirable in principle, are tolerable, says Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Count

Most German steelmakers are not affected because they don't rely on government subsidies, which is the accusation levelled by US steelmakers at the Europeans.

The US Department of Commerce has decided to penalise only Rochling-Burbach, who export next to no steel to America anyway, and Peine-Salzgitter.

These two German steelmakers are said to be subsidised by 8.6 and 3.2 per cent respectively.

Both are for the most part given regional aid and Count Lambsdorff hopes the US authorities will dispense with levies in their case.

The Department of Commerce estimates that most German steelmakers are subsidised less than one per cent. The figure for British steel is 40 per

For French and Belgian steel the estimate varies between 20 and 30 per cent. For Italian steel it is 18 per cent, So Count Lambsdorff feels it is time subsidies were reduced in the Common Mar-

He was happy that Washington shared the German view that grants to promote the use of coke to fire furnaces were not subsidies to the steel industry.

He was opposed to self-restraint agreements by exporters as a means of settling the conflict. He advised companies hit to refer the levy to Gatt.

US steel importers, including US subsidiaries of German steelmakers, are now required to deposit cash with the customs authorities to offset the subsi-

dies, on average about \$300 a ton. The American Institute for Imported Steel expects many kinds of foreign steel to be ousted from the US market. The penalties are the highest to be imposed by the United States on steel imports for years.

The institute has already warned that US steelmakers would take the opportunity provided by the import barriers to increase their prices.

The increase, it claims, will cost American consumers \$5bn a year.

By US law the levies come finally into force once judgment is passed by International Trade Commission in Wa-

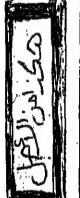
That will be on 24 August and 8 Oc tober respectively.

'Many American experts are wondering what all the fuss is about. US steel consumption this year will probably total 94.8m tons, of which not even five per cent is imported from EEC coun-

Besides, in April shipments from Western Europe were 319,000 tons, or 43.9 per cent down on April 1981.

With levies expected, orders of European steel have already plummeted, so a further decline can be expected.

US steelmakers are working at below 50 per cent capacity and 106,000 steelworkers are unemployed.



#### **PERSPECTIVE**

# East bloc access to technology a cause for American concern

president Reagan wants to curb the structors in building up its computer in-A export of technology to East Bloc dustry. countries. He first suggested stricter Cocom regulations at the Western economic summit in Ottawa last year.

Cocom is the coordinating committee for East-West trade. It is based in Paris.

By importing Western technology the Soviet Union and its satellites can accelerate the pace of their arms buildup, bridge gaps in industrial production and save heavily on research and deve-

The East Bloc gains access to crucial sectors of advanced Western technology partly via normal commercial channels and partly in a more roundabout man-

A characteristic feature is the purchase of Western computers and microelectronic semi-finished products that are the heart and mind of modern military technology.

Strenuous efforts are naturally made in the East Bloc countries themselves to develop electronic components and computers. A 1981 Pentagon survey of Soviet armament reported impressive

Electronic capacity has been greatly extended in the East Bloc, but there are still bottlenecks, especially in software.

The Bast also lags behind in the finer points of and progress in further development of high-capacity miniaturised

The West owes its lead in microprocessors and other miniaturised and integrated circuit units printed on tiny silicon chips not only to US space research but also to a powerful burst of industrial innovation in the civil sector.

The East Bloc is trying, by hook or by crook, to gain access to what it lacks. Where microelectronics cannot be bought directly it is imported via third countries, especially Turkey, it is understood.

Where technological know-how is not for sale the East Bloc does not necessarily have to resort to espionage. The West is brimful of technology. Specialised literature and laboratory reports are freely accessible. Access can also be gained to data banks.

So it is hardly surprising that the Soviet Union now lags behind the West in electronic development by only two to five years, as against an estimated 10 to 12 years in the 1965 Pentagon report.

Microelectronic components and computers, the 1981 survey says, have been reconstructed by any means available. The Pentagon says the Soviet Union has been given a veritable technology transfusion.

Defence Secretary Weinberger is continually producing evidence to support his claim that Soviet military electronics is largely American in origin.

This is said to apply in equal measure to weapons with automatic target-finders, to ballistic missiles and to command and control instrumentation.

The Soviet computer range known as the Ryad series is reported to use the same software and peripherals as the

IBM 360 and 370. Development aid of this kind, unwittingly given by the capitalist system, has lastingly benefited the GDR, which has relied on internationally acknowledged management consultants and staff in-

It has been able to use to a large extent the proven research findings of leading US manufacturers of microchips, says the All-German Research Unit. West Berlin.

"Buying Western technology," it writes in a report, "may be expensive but as a rule it seldom entails any great difficulty."

The West has heightened the risk it runs by marketing advanced technology such as electronics so generously.

There is a growing realisation that the trafflo from West to East in sensitive military and industrial material cannot continue as it has been doing.

But views differ on how and to what extent the transfer of technology is to be curbed.

President Reagan says the West must ensure on a broad front that Western technology, especially electronics, is protected and preserved.

Communist bids to gain access to it must draw a blank.

Bonn has long showed signs of agreeing but is not keen to regulate technology transfer as comprehensively as Washington would like.

The German government is not in favour of fresh control and embargo procedures. As far as is needed for reasons of security, Bonn says, strategic exports must be handled better and more sensi-

Social Democrat MP has accused

A the government of having thrown

open the door for indiscriminate arms

Norbert Gansel said the arms lobby

bly within the existing Cocom frame-

Cocom is the Coordinating Committee for East-West Trade, based in Paris. If its work were done more sensibly and more effectively much, it is said, could be accomplished.

But Cocom is slow and cumbersome. There is not enough political elan to make more out of the system.

So President Reagan's efforts have yet to be given effective backing. In January, for instance, the US government convened a special session of the coordinating committee.

There are 15 member-countries, all the Nato countries except Iceland, plus Japan. In Bonn and other Cocom capitals the importance of the gathering was played down afterwards.

Yet it was the first time in 25 years that Cocom, which has existed for over three decades, had debated basic issues of future technology exports.

More particularly, as Washington emphasised, it was the first time in a quarter of a century that Cocom had discussed the subject at a high-ranking

It was noted afterwards, off the record of course, that the Cocom countries had grown even more clearly aware of the problems presented by technology transfer.

But the Cocom system is cumbersome. Voting is taken Item by Item on whether an export order is of strategic

tries. He said it referred only to friendly

Differences of opinion also arose on

tic. "The idea of insisting on a veto

Herr Gansel and the critics claim the

The Social Democrats had then call-

ed on the government to limit arms ex-

ports strictly to member-countries of the

Atlantic alliance and comparable dem-

Egon Bahr, chairman of the arms ex-

At the same time he made it clear that

in comparison with their predecessors

the new arms export guidelines were far

He criticised, but did not name. Cabi-

net members who had sought to have

restrictions on arms exports eased. Vor-

warts understands that Economic Af-

ports working party in the Bundestag

SPD, said he well understood the mis-

guidelines contradict resolutions passed

right is," he said, "wishful thinking."

at the Munich SPD conference.

importance to the East Bloc and the there export permission should be many THE ENVIRONMENT

Products that are Cocom-listed 'Waste not, want not' becomes 'waste it sensitive are not subject to an exisexport ban, but in a special permit cedure an export embargo can be

Even the most minute changes in embargo list can only be made b unanimous decision of the 15 Coop very few weeks there is a collection countries, so a system of this kind pof waste paper in a small town in bound to have its loopholes, and engine. People regularly make up parrience has shown that they can be under old newspapers for recycling.

It is high time the process valles they carefully tie up in string consolidated and implemented and sold to a paper factory; they are consistently, and this calls for a policy driven to the municipal rubbish cal decision by the governments come

issuing export permits in member of Fel, "they would be disappointed. But tries must enforce Cocom regulate with find any buyers of waste paper with equal earnest in processing applicadays."
cations to export technology to come h compost installation a few miles nist countries.

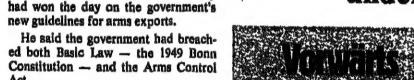
When sensitive technology is em ted to countries outside the East M When it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure that it was built politicians and encare must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure the encare must be taken to ensure must be taken to ensur not end up in the East,

Whenever there is the slightest and junge into compost and earning cion that technical equipment, especially at the same time.

Electronic components that an a Politicians and environmentalists still tinue slipping through the net as the odd. have done in the past.

> Klaus Broichhaus Frankfurter Aligemeintains
> für Deutschland, 4 Justin

# Arms export guidelines under heavy fire



neutral states.

given country.

ocratic states.

more restrictive.

trust felt by many MPs.

The guidelines have been accepted by most SPD MPs, but Gansel was one of several critics. During several hours debate by the parliamentary party he tried unsuccessfully to introduce several

He called for tougher restrictions and clarification of the guidelines.

"Anyone who claims the new guidelines are restrictive," he complained, "either falls to appreciate the problem or is laying himself open to suspicions of befogging the issue."

This criticism was counted mainly by Chancellor Schmidt and Justice Minis-

"In future," said the Chancellor, "there will be much tougher restrictions on arms exports." "The restrictive overall approach is quite clear," said Herr

Herr Gansel and the SPD critics were particularly mistrustful of a provision that allowed for the export of arms in special circumstances

These circumstances were if "by virtue of special political considerations exceptions of a general nature are made or, in specific instances, vital interests of the Federal Republic of Germany warrant an exception being

Helmut Schmidt did not agree that

fairs Minister Lambadorff, FDP, white companies.

the Chancellor, who is a Social Deal sang any further. crat, nor by Foreign Minister George New methods of recycling waste are this provision threw the door wide open the FDP leader. for arms exports to Third World coun-

Herr Bahr's suggestion of first standard in production in the new guidelines worked in product a government grant, a method of tice, then reviewing them in six most takes flower pots out of old cables.

I Tabingen University professor has party.

arms manufactured jointly with other countries. Herr Gansel called for Bonn to insist on the right to veto sales to a The Chancellor felt this was unrealis-

"If, after the trial period, they there even claim to have recycled found not to have been satisfactor." there even claim to have recycled continued, "the parliamentary par and protein from used car tyres, but will have to decide either to take up a live to ten years before either will have to decide either to have the subject again or to seek to amend in least be feasible on a commer-subject again or to seek to amend in least. gal provisions."

ter several hours of debate:

"The debate has reaffirmed our then they are disappointed when rough discussion and the resolve of the idea proves impracticable or tive approach."

but they are wasting their time. The

We deren't tell anyone," says the Government agencies responsible stager of the refuse disposal depart-

> an the road has also run into probms people would prefer not to dis-

and the opportunity of converting

ly with electronic controls, that is the manager of the compost works been ordered by a communist count purhas to cart his product to the winefor commercial use might be put too powers of the Moselle. No-one nearer litary use, the order should be care use will have it, and they will only thit fee of charge.

such crucial importance in weapon admiastically proclaim that trash is technology cannot be allowed to an indianacy and raw materials to be re-

Misoplimism is no longer shared by tem responsible for handling and sping of household waste for the lokan plans to make recycling manda-

yin the Refuse Disposal Bill it ex-

58 to submit to the Bundestag later figear, but the men on the spot don't Exthat will make much difference. local authority and industrial gartipe disposers are to be required to

selop new recycling concepts and to wider offers to recycle trash made by

strongly in favour of a relaxation. Expens are convinced this require-But his view was shared neither will fail to speed the puce of re-

Time alone would tell whether the leaded in converting sewage sludge were applied as restrictively as the State So have scientists in Britain and

The SPD parliamentary party boides, as Professor Karl Thome-called on its members of the Federal West Berlin, puts it:

Egon Bahr, to advocate strongly a fall such processes look better the trictive approach on arms exports.

Lothar Löffler, vice-chairman of practice. Politicians and the Press parliamentary party, had this to say a turfair to them because they sing

Federal government to adop.

That is why doubts as the possible the interior of collaboration with the Federal approach, which results so far of the uses export control are without foundation which recycled domestic gar
(Vorwarts, 3 June 1) they had high hopes about the idea with claiming glass, plastic, rubber, me-

because it's not wanted'

tal, paper and organic materials from household waste.

There were even plans to recycle half the country's domestic garbage by the end of the decade, and that would have been roughly 14 million tonnes a year.

The aim was to reduce Germany's dependence on imported raw materials. But, as one official admits: "For two or three years we have realised it just isn't working the way we thought it

The technology is not the main problom. The difficulty is selling the recycled raw material, which can seldom compete with the original product for quality.

The cost of recycling is higher than initially estimated in most cases too, but politicians are so keen that they seem to overlook such details.

"In the early 70s," says Hans Langer, "any local authority that had plans to recycle waste was sure of government

"The engineers started inventing ways of doing it but no-one ever bothered to go into costs or marketing. Why should they? No-one had to submit a statement of accounts."

That was why many local politicians were so keen about garbage composting. It sounded wonderful and went down well with voters and ecological

But as long as local authorities are unable to sell the compost, the cost of refuse disposal by this technique will be between DM60 and DM150 per tonne, or roughly twice as much as incineration or three times as much as dumping.

Since refuse disposal charges then have to be increased, householders soon lose enthusiasm about progress of this kind.

So it is hardly surprising no mention is made any more of the 50 to 60 garbage composting installations that were to have been built all over the country.

At present there are 16, and they process about three per cent of German household garbage. There probably won't be any more for a while, says Bernd Wolbeck of the Bonn Interior

The Bonn government has fallen well short of its waste paper recycling targets too. It had hoped about half the country's 10m tonnes of waste paper could be recycled.

This was an admirable target, given that about 15 trees are felled to make a tonne of paper.

But the uses to which waste paper can be put in the wrapping paper and cardboard industry have gradually been exhausted, so the idea was to expand the market for grey-tinted recycled

Recycled paper costs more than white and the uses to which it can be put are limited. Not even the Bonn Ministries, which are supposed to use only recycled paper, always do so,

So the recycling of waste paper is actually on the decline and only about 42 per cent is currently reused. Besides, most comes from the paper and packaging industry, not from domestic consu-

Industrial waste paper is of better quality and more uniform in quality too, making it easier to process.

Householders pile up five million tonnes of waste paper by the roadside every year, but only about two per cent is actually recycled.

There is no hope of most of this waste paper ever being reused by the paper industry, even state secretary Günter Hartkopf of the Bonn Interior

## Makers agree to step up use of re-usable containers

Beverage manufacturers and the pac-kaging industry have agreed to make greater use of reusable containers and improve packaging recycling.

Interior Minister Gerhart Baum says what happens now will show whether or not he needs to go ahead with plans for a tax on packaging to atem the tide of waste.

Ten per cent of household garbage, the Ministry says, is beverage containers, and if there were no returnable bottles (reused up to 40 times) the proportion would increase by about 20 per cent in the next few years. Using deposit-only reusable beer

bottles rather than the no-deposit no-return variety would result in an energy saving of up to 70 per cent. So Herr Baum says the industry's un-

dertaking is an important contribution to the fight against the throw-away mentality. This kind of outlook contradicted a policy of conserving commodities and

the environment. By the end of this year reusable conFrankfurier Hundschau

tainers are to be distinctively marked so everyone will be able to see at a glance which packaging is environmentally

Bottles will be standardised to rationalise recovery and cut the cost of reuse. The beverage industry has agreed to end advertising for no-deposit no-return containers.

All branches of the packaging industry (glass, board, cans and plastic) have undertaken to boost recycling perceptibly in the years to come.

Bottle manufacturers are to recycle in the medium term 1.5 million tonnes of waste glass a year instead of the present 700,000 tonnes.

The Interior Ministry says this is more than half the industry's output. Can manufacturers have undertaken

by 1985 to increase by 25 per cent on Continued on page 10

The only meaningful use to which it can be put in any quantity, he says, is in generating energy or other alternative

And there is only one such alternative use that has so far resulted in a competitive product, the manufacture of flower pots from waste paper.

These pots can be potted in the garden together with their contents. The plants will grow. The paper will rot without presenting the slightest ecological problem.

Recycling glass is not such a sorry tale. Glass manufacturers have backed recycling strongly, and with costly advertising campaigns.

They have even hired pop stars such as Chris Andrews and Tony Sheridan to sing the praises of recycling glass in shopping centres.

Colourful containers have been sited in towns all over the country by glass manufacturers for reclaiming old bottles, and manufacturers have given the government an undertaking to buy back certain quantity of old glass every

In 1974 they were recycling 150,000 tonnes or so of old bottles a year. Last year it was three times as much. By 1985 the amount is scheduled to amount to 1.2 m tonnes, or about two thirds of the country's glass waste.

But this industrial enthusiasm has anything but altruistic motives. Energy prices are so high that they stand to gain from using an admixture of old

They have an even more telling motive. Interior Minister Gerhart Baum is continually threatening to ban non-returnable bottles. This would hit turnover hard.

So glass manufacturers readily accept the lesser evil of recycling waste so as to appease Herr Baum, who is keen on onrironmental protection, and dissuade him from taking more effective measu-

The success rates in recycling other kinds of waste vary. The only 100-percent success story is from the scrapyards where two million old cars are

cannibalised and scrapped every year. The recycling quota for waste iron is 25 per cent, for used tyres that are burnt in coment works 80 per cent and for camera batteries that dealers have taken back since 1980 a reasonable 40 per

But the other 60 per cent are still thrown into dustbins even though they contain highly toxic waste.

It is not worthwhile separating plastic waste from household gurbage. The various materials vary too much and would need to be re-sorted. That costs too much.

Since 1975 the Bonn government has invested over DM250m in developing and perfecting recycling techniques, but no matter how sophisticated the sorting and processing are, they are no use if the recycled product cannot compete in

The government could lead the way as a consumer, says Benno Risch, an EEC environment expert. "The public sector could spend much more money on environmentally sound products in all Comon Market countries."

The EEC Council of Ministers has officially advised member-governments to use recycled paper for all official forms and school books.

Environment experts are hoping Brussels will make further recommendations, such as deposit-only bottles for public service canteens, garbage compost for public parks and so on.

But it hasn't yet. Irene Mayer-List

(Die Zeit, 11 June 1982)

# The German oyster industry begins to make up for lost time

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

German oysters make up nowhere even remotely near one per cent of the world's output, but they have only been farmed since 1971.

The German fishing industry abandoned the oyster as a cash catch back in 1926. In its heyday, a century ago, 500 tons a year were caught off Heligoland and in the shallows along the North Sea coast.

Today 900,000 tons of oysters, unappetising to look at but delicious to eat, lovers of sea food say, are farmed annually worldwide.

Japan and the United States are the main producers, Since 1971 Germany's experimental pyster beds have yielded between one-and-a-half and six tons a

They are the result of a project started by the Hamburg-based Federal Fishery Research Institute.

Cold winters, overfishing and depletion of stocks, especially of young oysters, were the German oyster's downfall in the early years of the

After a vain bid to restock oyster beds with Portuguese oysters the Industry called it a day after the First World War, but scientists are now confident the Japanese oyster will help the industry to reestablish itself this time.

Fishery biologist Thomas Neudecker is optimistic the Japanese newcomer will, in the right conditions, settle down off the North Frisian coast and cater for the demand of at least north German

For six years he has been working on the oyster project at the Hamburg institute's Baltic outstation in Langballigau, near Flensburg.

"Our oysters have so far sold well," says Neudeoker, 31. "They are excellent in quality."

Ten years ago the institute imported its first 500 Japanese oyster seedlings from Scotland as the opening move in an experiment backed by the Research Ministry in Bonn.

The Japanese syster is impervious to wide variations in salination and temperature. It is better suited than other varicties to survive tough winters, and it even flourishes in the Baltic, which has a very low salt count.

The Langballigau research station was launched in 1979 as the first oyster. farm in Germany where breeding was carried out artificially.

Neudecker says the insemination rate is 95 per cent. What this means is that several thousand eggs per oyster are fer-

### Agreement

Continued from page 9

1980 the recycling of old tin cans. That would be roughly 250,000 tonnes a year. The Minister expects retailers to provide consumers with a choice between deposit and no-return containers.

The higher recycling quota will he says, call on local authorities with responsibility for waste disposal to reconsider priorities.

Gorda Strack (Frankfuster Rundschau, 8 June 1982)

sands of tiny seedlings, each with its own shell, taking to the water.

He and his fellow-scientists then try to keep the junior oysters alive and well. This calls for the right water, a constant 25 degrees centigrade and special algae cultures on which they feed.

In ideal conditions the oysters double their weight weekly throughout their first year. Results have at times been so

satisfactory, Neudecker says, that they can keep up with foreign breeders.

Samples have been sent to Denmark and as far afield as Yugoslavia and Is-

There have been trials of a wide range of breeding techniques. Temperature and food are not the only criterion. The kind of container used, plastic or metal, also counts.

His latest recommendation is to LITERATURE two-year-old oysters to a metal far with a little cement and to leave then grow to a full 80 grams, the size which they are best eaten, a year later

Ovster seedings are sent from Fig. burg to fishermen in Glücksburg, § Amrum, Nordstrand and Neuharlin siel, all on the North Sea coast, who a oyster farms as a part-time job.

Bonn Agriculture Ministry.

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# Escaping the Nazi dragnet: how the family Bertini came to be

For Christmas 1955 Ralph Giordano The oyster breeding project has to the five, a steam machine, a kind of cost DM2.5m. It will probably end his gionary toy locomotive that belches present form at the year of next year. In smoke and works pistons at an imhought my son Thomas, who was But the Fishery Research Institute prairie speed when fuel pellets are lit. hopes the Lungballigau outstation of He had bought it three weeks earlier be kept going with a grant from the DM300, or half the monthly allowge of students at the Leipzig literature

> (Saddeutsche Zeitung, 8 Juni 197) le came to Leipzig from Hamburg as erade of a socialist realist writer.

> > die three or four times, then he was suffied. As a child he had longed for a can machine of his own, he explai-ાનું and now he had fulfilled his wish, mais little late in the day.

We thanked him profusely for the meent, but he would hear nothing of Hewasn't interested in gratitude.

We knew his childhood had been menhadowed by fascism, but he never rent into details. He was a noisy, cheer-I man, popular with fellow-students bi already a little troublesome for the

He was bound for a clash with SED at KPD officialdom. Details can be md in his book Die Partei hat immer mit (The:Party is Always Right), writmaller he quit the KPD and pubidd in 1961.

has his first and for long his only het because he didn't go on to bea writer as planned, not to begin in at least. His first book goes a long ly towards explaining why.

he doctrines of ideology and art kery he embraced and the arts as pacised in the GDR blocked his mind nd halted his pen. He made a name for himself as a TV

water, travelling around the world biblinging back film footage about its and political tension. He kept on writing after all, but kept

pig about it, and now the book has libeen published, it is a novel entitthe Bertinis, the tale of a family.

Gacomo Bertini headed north from determined to become a major Mikian. He toured the cities of Eure and stayed in Hamburg more or by coincidence.

to became the father of a son. But it spossible to describe the course of all satisfactorily in mere thumbnail die, the ups and down, the tragedy

is a tale of tempestuous Latin temment and a combination of dozens ands of story that to begin with anot read pleasurably at all.

tre told how Lea is born, a Jewof a family that has long lived in of Germany, and how she arrives at diplather and a stepsister who is not

le marries Alf Bertini, son of the Siand now the family is complete, hany people with so little in coma mass of contradictions.

bear it is a tale that might have been th telling even without what was lahappen, but the reader knows that knowledgeable linkmen such as Franlow it is 1933, the year Hitler came çois Bondy, he gave a sparkling display

led and Alf have three sons, Cesar, and Ludwig. The two elder boys school together, and there they

learn they are something they never even suspected existed: half-Jews.

Giordano had this novel on his mind for 40 years. It grew from memory into notes and file cards, then fragments he went over and reworked time and again.

The documentary aspect was overshadowed by the people who took shape in the novel, people the reader feels he understands and whose tale is

The Bertinis is the first novel of a man nearing 60, and it is an immediate smash hit that has earned him literary Let no-one say he was already fami-

liar with the outcome of the tale and, in broad outline, how it progressed.

Reiph Giordano: The Bertinis; S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt; pp 782; DM 39.80

The Nuremberg race laws and the commentary on them by Hans Maria Globke, who went on to serve as a leading civil servant in Bonn after the war, are the abstract.

What we see actually happening to real people in the novel takes us to the very limits of sympathy and suffering with and for them.

Much has been written in both East and West about everyday fascism and the less conventional varieties. Nowhere has the tale been told with such intensity of how it affected a family of Jews, half-Jews and non-Jews.

Regardless whether or not crimes committed during the Nazi era ever come under the statute of limitations, this novel still comes at just the right time by virtue of its moral force, its exactness and the impact of the way in which it is told.

There is the excitement of residing how Giordano, in the person of Roman Bertini, explains what prompted him to write the novel. It was reading Thomas Wolfe's Look Homeward, Angel, a nov-

atin America is the keynote of this

Ayear's Horizons Festival in West

Berlin, and the first week concentrated

on works of literature and literary to-

in Berlin for the festival, and given the

growing reputation of Latin American

The wide-ranging festival programme

was opened by Octavio Paz, the Mexi-

Mayor Richard von Weizsäcker and the

At a well-attended gathering Paz read

This particular event was not unduly

exciting, partly because the Mexican's

writer's verse is fairly conventional and

the questions put by his German oppo-

site numbers failed to elicit much that

Murio Vargas Llosa, the Peruvlan

writer, was another matter. Fired by

Unbeatable in p s. re and mimicry,

he outline not only issues of Latin

American narrative prose and its Euro-

head of the Goethe Institute.

Vogelsang.

was of interest.

of rhetoric.

writing they included famous names.

Leading Latin American writers were

el that has impressed him as no other book had done beforehand.

Wolfe's novel, Giordano writes, hit Roman Bertini like "a powerful meteor that smashed through to his very innermost parts, there exploding and contaminating his blood with thousands and thousands of fragments"

The tale told in The Bertinis takes its inexorable course. The Nazis put out their dragnet ever closer. Hamburg is devastated in Allied bombing raids.

Even when less and less of Hitler's war machine is in working order and, finally, it no longer works at all, the Gestapo keeps up business as usual until the very end.

The family gain a breathing space when Lea, Alf and their three sons are evacuated after the bombing raids to a village between Brunswick and Magdeburg where there are not air raids every night and there are still such things as

Yet even as evacuees they come under pressure. Their names have not yet been deleted from the waiting list for concentration camp. They are sent back

There are no thoroughbred heroes in the novel. Everyone is worried stiff and Alf Bertini is bound to be tortured by the thought that it would all never have happened to him or anyone if only he had not married a Jewess and they had not had three sons.

The intricacles cannot be resolved without giving up himself as well, but his sons are keenly aware of the dilemma. They sense the mutual hatred born of fear that gives rise to situations worthy of classical tragedy.

In the midst of it all, bearing the burden without a shadow of guilt, is Lea, the archetype of a mother

Hamburg is burning but men, women and children wearing the Star of David are still shepherded into the open spa-

ces near Dammtor station for transportation to concentration camps.

In February 1945, when the Allies are already at the Rhine in the west and the Oder in the east, the city's last Jews, Jewesses from mixed marriages, are shipped to Theresienstadt.

Those who help the Bertinis in one way or another are not free of fear, and at times they are helf-hearted. Roman is engaged in a life-or-death quest for a hideout in which the family can take cover when they come to take his mother away.

With the help of a woman railway worker he fits out a cellar for survival. It is covered in rubble and under water. but a man promises to keep them supplied with food.

Then, at last, the news breaks that Hamburg has capitulated and that the British have been marching north into the city for the past two hours.

"The tanks came in the late afternoon. What then crept out of the old scullery, one after another, had little left in common with humanity. It was a sight no-one could have been prepared for. "As none of the Bertiffis were still capable of walking upright, each moved toward the tanks as best he could, Alf and his sons went on all fours. Lea slid on her knees."

That is how they slowly emerge into a new life. Roman wants to shoot the worst of his torturers, but cannot bring himself to do it.

Lea gives birth to her fourth child, a daughter. The everyday Nazis take 'cover, and some try to help the Bertinis in the hope that they themselves will thus

A year later many of them have brazenly and adeptly returned to their old

Giordano did, that the Nazis' most determined enemies, the Communist, must now be his best friends.

This belief cost him dearly for 10 long years. At the end of the novel we can arguably see Glordano's first book from afar, Many will hope he writes a Erich Loest .

(Doutsches Aligemeines Sonntagsbiau,

Erich Loest is a dissident East German wri-

#### Latin-America flavour at festival

pean models (Llosa is the author of a highly regarded book on Flaubert), but also dealt with the plan and intentions can essayist and poet, Governing of his latest novel.

In it he sheds light on events in century, the uprising led by a ing from contemporary Latin America, a selection of his poems and answered "holy man" from the Sertão that was crushed by the Brazilian armed forces questions put by German writer Peter Hamm and his German translator Fritz with much bloodshed.

The topic is an impressive demonstration of the unity of Latin American subject matter, especially as it is widely felt that Spanish America and Brazil have little in common.

Other platform discussions dealt with problems of translation, the role of women in Latin American literature, the Indians and the literary market in countries that in many cases have an extremely shaky publishing and distribution network.

Then the major regions of the subcontinent were reviewed. The Carib-- was represented mainly by younger writers but the ex-president of the Dominican Republic, Juan Bosch, was in Berlin as a writer.

From Brazil there was the poet Ferreira Gullar, the novelist Loyola Brandão (whose book Zero has been well received in Germany) and the anthropologist and writer Darcy Ribeiro.

From the Spanish-speaking countries there was Antonio Skarmeta from Chile and Augusto Roa Bastos from Paraguay, whose epic novel I, The Almighty is felt by connoisseurs to be arguably north-eastern Brazil at the turn of the the most impressive piece of epic writ-Manuel Puig and Osvaldo Soriano.

Time and again the wide variations and distinctions in political and cultural profile of the various zones of the subcontinent came to the fore.

Caribbean writers by and large endorsed the demand for a fighting, committed literature in the service of national liberation and at times frankly called for revolution.

Countries suffering under the yoke of dictatorship, such as Argentina, Uruguay and Chile present writers and intellectuals with the gloomy prospect of

Faced with this problem they showed Continued on page 12



Rainer Werner Fassbinder, who has died in Munich aged 36, was one of the most productive, best-known and most controversial German film direc-

In a mere 14 years he directed 40 films and worked as a stage director. For a while he managed the Theater am Turm in Frankfurt.

He also directed films serialised on TV and wrote plays. He seems to have worked like a man possessed, always in search of fresh fields, self-confirmation and fame and keen to forget his own fears and weaknesses.

Fassbinder was a person full of contradictions. Throughout his career as a director he was torn between the glamour of a Hollywood style and his predilection for a mannerism that often made his films offputting for a wider

Only a handful of his 40 films were box office successes. They included The Marriage of Maria Braun and Lili Mar-

Outwardly he seemed unperturbed that most of the rest appealed only to a limited audience. But he was hurt by what he thought was his talent being disregarded.

He felt misunderstood, deliberately misunderstood, and in the late 70s. when he was dogged by bad luck, flops and scandals back home, he threatened to emigrate to America.

Fassbinder is highly ratd in the United States. In 1977 a major season of his films was screened in New York. "Fassbinder." wrote the film critic of the New York Times, "is Burope's most talented and original director,"

That was extremely gratifying, but despite his threats Passbinder stayed in Germany and kept on working until, in

# Fassbinder: early death, life of contradictions

the box office.

He was born in 1946 in Bad Wörlshofen, the Bayarian water cure spa. His father was a doctor, his mother an interpreter. But even the date of his birth is shrouded in the secrecy Fassbinder so

Some sources say he was born on 13 February, others on 31 May, Fassbinder himself refused to say which was the right date. But he frankly admitted to the failure that marked the start of his career 18 years ago.

He falled the entrance exam for the Berlin Film Academy. So did directors Werner Schroeter and Rosa von Praun-

He then moved to Munich and workcd as an extra at the Kammerspiele, taking acting lessons at the Leonhard School of Drama, where he met Hanna Schygulla, who was his leading lady for

In Munich he launched his first theatre in a disused cinema. It was a shortlived venture named anti-theater. The name conveys an idea of what he had in

Fassbinder sought to part company with theatrical tradition. He saw the stage as a peep show at which the audience witnessed strange events that had nothing to do with reality, not even conventional stage reality.

He directed classics such as Büch-

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cal affairs. You gain an insight into context and background. AUSSENPOLITIK - a year's subscription costs DM 50 plus postage.

ner's Leonce and Lena and plays of his own, such as Katzelmacher, which he was later to film, invariably with his of-

terview his predilection for unimpassioned, detached cast management resulting in a withdrawsl of audience sympathy with the figures on the screen.

"The more beautiful films are," he said, "the more clipped and artificial, the freer and more liberating they

This tenet was one he chose to keep to in his later films in particular, which concentrate on migrant workers and the working class, left-wing extremism and factory workers.

mained his critique of what he called petty bourgeoisie, which he showed up in a distorting mirror in the pomp and frippery of films such as Lili Marieen. Lola and Despair (based on the Nabo-

Films seeped in beauty or pseudobeauty were not the ones that made his name and consolidated his reputation. however. Neither were his attempts to make political films, which invaribly fell foul of his subjective and emotional

in the memory are films widely ranging in character and style.

There is his 1973 saga of a migrant worker Angst ossen Scele auf (Anxiety

ten exaggerated tendency to artificially

overstate his case, as it were. He was very fond of this artificiality. That was why he was so keen on the films of Douglus Sirk, the Hollywood director of German extraction whose actors act on the screen as though they were separated from reality by a pane of glass.

Fassbinder once explained in an in-

did not, as his earlier work had done, But the link with his early period re-

kov novel).

The Fassbinder films that stand out

MEDICINE

# The running problems of going on holiday in faraway places

One in four adults came home sick all Milmates, experts were told at a Mud congress on tourism, travel and

Calldren fared worse, returning ill or by in need of rest. Holidays in the erate zones of Europe also had wh hazards.

Guses, prevention and cure were deby specialists from 12 countries at maference held by the German Green Fassbinder . . . felt misunderstoot fout and the World Health Organisa-

Darchoes, they were told, headed the Consumes the Soul) and his distinct accounting for 35 per cent of the 1974 film of Fontane's novel Ell Bis 12 lt was due mainly to poor hygiene.

Effi Briest was one of the few had wenneed only clean your teeth with binder films in which emotions a next that has not been boiled or take displayed openly and strongly and sink drink to be affected," said Prohidden either under a mountain de fran Friedrich Deinhardt. gar candy or beneath extremely on A specialist in virus complaints, he

shied tourists who visited the tropics Then there is his 1979 success Missys to have a mixture of salt and su-Marriage of Maria Braun, first-may handy.

nema that contrasts sharply with the There was also a first-rate drug now TV serial version of Doblin's 20s mm in the market that successfully treated furhoes of all kinds.

It remains to be seen whether hit with filters as mainly used by camfilm, Querelle, which he was able sign were not much good. They kept shoot but not to finish, will be a min!

### French advice on money and health

though the judgement may be, and to the French used to any that you had in part to the quantity and variety at to make your fortune by the time work, to have been a director who are to so as to be able to give par health undivided attention.

Margarete von Sohwarte Gemans today seem to share a little (Die Well. II has with outlook. Until they are 40 most mental anguish of one kind or another id a strong as a lion and in good or

by good health.
Then the crunch comes. Only 39 per of the over-40s feel quite so sangshout their health, 27 per cent of

of between 1,500 and over 10,000

were undergoing medical treatment

the over-50s and 63 among the

per cent of the over-bus said

ases, theumatism, slipped discs and

lo by their doctor or when they were

Horst Wefelnberg/dpa

most purifiers reduced the risk, they could not entirely sterilise the water.

One doctor told the congress there were even mineral waters it would be better to boil before drinking. A Munich hospital reported a 100-

per-cent increase in food poisoning cases treated in September and October, after the holiday season. Constination came next, accounting for 15 per cent of travel ailments. Causes mentioned in Munich included both

psychic reasons and the more mundane lack of movement in cars, trains and aircraft. Not cating enough salad was another reason, due no doubt to fear of con-

tracting diarrhoes. Professor Deinhardt advised tourists to eat plenty of thick-skinned fruit and vogetables such as oranges and bananas. They were safe.

Insomnia during or immediately after a holiday came third on the list with 10

Bad Wiessee pharmacist Dr. Wolfgang Schlemmer said it was due to unusually high noise levels in southern countries and to jet lag in international

So the first-aid kit tourists should take with them ought to include our plugs and sleeping tablets.

R heumatism could be psychosoma-tic, doctors were told at an in-servi-

ce training course at the West Berlin in-

Few general practitioners would be

Specialists in skin diseases could not

be expected to realise that psoriasis at-

Not even the patients themselves

were always prepared to believe that

there was a straightforward psychoso-

matic explanation for a physical com-

largely to blame for physical illness.

greater help to their patients with a talk

about the mental background to the

Everyone will appreciate that conti-

nual inner tension due to anxiety, an-

ger, disappointment or humiliation may

complaint than when they prescribed

ing Studt told the congress.

versity in West Berlin.

any amount of drugs.

likely to put down patients' rheumatism

ternational congress centre.

to mental difficulties.

per cent. Dr Sohlemmer said nose drops and throat pastilles were best, with possibly an antiblotic for longer journeys. Other complaints during or after holi-

Fovorish colds came fourth with five

days, including increasingly frequent cases of hepatitis B, did not amount to more than one per cent.

They were often due to the individual holidaymaker's general state of health. the congress was told, and to conditions to which he or she paid too little atten-

Most tourists needed to know beforehand or be briefed by their general practitioner on acute illnesses or the likelihood of their suffering from complaints such as eye inflammation, athlete's foot, piles, feeling bloated, high blood pressure and the like.

About 16 per cent of travellers on board ship who needed medical care were found to have been suffering from their complaint beforehand.

The trend toward sporting holldays led to an additional accident risk, said Munich orthopsedic surgeon Professor Bernd Rosemeyer.

There was a particularly heavy increase in the number of skiing injuries last winter sport season. Joggers and wind surfers were also increasingly re-

quiring orthopaedic and surgical attention in holiday resorts.

"Many people are no longer content to play sport in the normal manner," he said, "with the result that surfing in strong winds, trick surfing and surfing in heavy swell lead to serious injuries."

Professor Rosemeyer's father was, incidentally, a racing driver who was killed in a speed record bid in 1938. His mother, aviator Elly Beinhorn, is 75 and in nerfect health.

Tourists who went in for water sports, he said, ought not to be dissuaded by the risks but they should bear them in mind and try to make sure they did not end up in what could be a poorly equipped hospital far away from home.

Diving too was increasingly dangerous with growing popularity, said Munich forensie scientist Professor Wolfgang Eisenmenger.

Improved diving equipment made diving seem easy and trouble-free, but the number of injuries was on the increase because divers underestimated the risks. They were also unaware of basic laws of physics.

Serious water sports accidents were on the increase partly because many lakes and waterways were much more crowded than they used to be, said insurance director Dr Karl Lochmaier.

Over the past 10 years sports accidents have made up between 11 and 14 per cent of claims on private accident neurance policies by adults.

Sports mishaps accounted for between 14 and 17 per cent of claims among children, and the tendency was toward a further increase.

> Karl Stankiewitz (Mannhelmer Morgen, 5 June 1982)

increasingly chronic case of rhoumatism

The patient, he said, usually attributed the complaint to the movement or

Cases of inflammation of the joints, of rheumatoid arthritis, could take a similar course, except that infections and immunological factors also played a

Yet specialists no longer had any doubts on the subject. They were connate that leads to bone and joint damvinced that mental upsets, times dating age? Professor Studt said that the back to childhood, could trigger or be groundwork was often laid in child-

> tism had often been found to have had a dominating, aggressive mother and a weak and submissive father, or vice-ver-

> do what they were told, to be highly efwith exaggerated readiness to help.

> A typical case history, said Professor Studt, was that of a patient with a tyran-

At 26 he had married a girl of 19, a nondescript young thing he, as the helper born, had hoped to make something

He succeeded. Before long his wife was an attractive woman who appealed to other men and herself felt attracted to another man.

"Only in the course of psychothera-py," said Professor Studt, "was he able to admit to himself the disappointed ag-

gression he felt. "He only felt well when he was able to dominate his fellow-men by being

The origins of psoriasis often lay way back in the childhood, said Professor Möller, who referred to the case of a 23year-old man who had his first attack during a love affair.

It turned out that as a baby he had been deprived of skin contact with his mother, which is crucially important in fostering a sense of physical and mental

He was at long last able to make good this deprivation of affection by skin contact with the woman he loved. but suddenly old fears of being disappointed and rejected were unconsciousv reawakened

Skin is often called the visiting card of the personality or mirror of the soul. His responded with a disease suggestive of the psyche trying to armour-plate it-self against fresh injury.

Professor Möller may be right in saying that psoriasis attacks are often more nearly half his patients admitted they had been having 'trouble' shortly beforehand.

But it would be as well not to assume that everyone processes mental strain in exactly the same way. The same stress, he said, could worsen the condition in one patient while alleviating it in an-

The conclusion to be reached is that general practitioners must spend more time talking with the psoriasis and rheumatism patient about his or her individual condition and background.

> Dieter Dietrich ersche Allgemeine, 5 June (982)

Richard von Weizsäcker

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# A touch of Latin America

Continued from page 11 signs of depression, despair, pessimism and indecision. Brazil, in contrast, is currently benefiting from a partial loosening of the reins by its military gov-

ernment. This opening, with the difficulties and opportunities it presented, was discussed at length.

Presentation of the platform debates was not as good as it might have been, according to the many members of the audience who spoke Spanish or Portuguese and were familiar with the coun-

Horst Bienek, Christoph Buch and Peter Schneider chaired debates with a display of Eurocentric ignorance that merely showed their Latin American colleagues how little German intellectuals know about the sub-continent.

Apart from athin veneer of academic experts, enthusiastic translators and courageous publishers Germany lacks an understanding reading public for Latin American literature.

It proved impossible, characteristical-'y so with intellectuals, it could be irgued, to arrive at a common denomiator of the wide range of topics and . rogrammes discussed.

There was little to call a halt to the

troversial aspects.

plex mistakes and confusions.

Berlin Alexanderplatz.

or a minor Fassbinder.

In trying to sound out the light

the screen, the medium he loved for

binder also sought to discover hami-

limitations. The result was an our

full of contradictions and incommit

But he can fairly be said, hetage

Juan Rulfo of Mexico. Rulfo published two short volume short stories 30 years ago and hus henly-four per cent of the over-50s

literature. In a quiet but exciting afternoon bad one person in four over 50 said sion Gunter Grass read three short been to the doctor's for

greatly influenced him. The writer then read his stories original Spanish. He sounded most live out of four patients said they with such a talented, deep-voiced in bought medicine when advised to

ker as Grass.

It was a very successful event in Physicur per cent claimed to read wide range of programmes forming the instruction leaflets.

Hanspeter Broth (Majunhelmer Morgen, 9 June !

delight of the Latins in public specific ever-50s and 22 per cent of the over-with the result that all too often not the conclusions are reached from

This was partly because time the made for a Cologne drug manushort, partly because writers and better.

men felt a need to sound a note of the Asurprisingly large number of peo-

de they were questioned. German audience has ever had a me percentages were 27 in the 18-39 ing for itself well-known writers and group, 39 among the over-40s, 56

published nothing, yet he is still on had been under doctor's orders for dered to be a leading light of Methods had been under doctor's orders for

ries of Rulfo's in German translate his.

Rulfo, he said, was a writer who is the over-60s said their most frequent plaints were heart and circulation

> lead to muscular cramp that causes rheumatism in the neck or back. Studt said, could play a part in causing morbid changes in the spinal chord, the discs and the vertebras.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 9 June 1982)

### **Psychosomatic** link with rheumatism

tacks were often caused by anxiety or

Where does muscular tension origi-

This had frequently been observed in People who suffered from rheumathe case of rheumatism and psoriasis, Michael Lukas Möller and Hans Henn-

Both specialise in psychosomatic ill-From childhood they were taught to ness, Professor Möller at Glessen University, Professor Studt at the Pree Unificient and quietly tolerant, cou They agreed that doctors often were a

> ical mother who had suffered for five years from a rheumatic neck as part of a neck and spinal chord syndrome.

Continual muscular cramp, Professor

This was roughly the time at which All that was then needed was a particularly clumsy movement or an unacthe patient began to complain of a stiff customed physical strain for an acute or and painful neck.

# No one checked as Gerhard lay dead for seven years

THE THE PROPERTY OF DIE WEIT.

A Munich man lay dead in his bed-sitting room for seven years before

Two more corpses were discovered in Munich apartments not long after the first case made headline news....

Three people shared Gerhard König's apartment. "König, ring twice," the nameplate read. For an incredible seven years the postman rang twice without getting an answer.

König had died unnoticed in spring 1975. He suffocated in a small fire in his room. No-one missed him in all tho-

Seven years is a sad record even in an age that seems to have developed to a fine art the social and technological prerequisites of total solitude.

"It's a metropolitan problem," says a spokesman for Munich police, and he is right up to a point, but the roots of Gerhard König's problems dated back to the darkest days of German history.

He was born in Breslau, Silesia, in 1907 and married a local girl three years before the Second World War. He had two daughters but the family was separated by the war.

His wife and the two children settled in the part of Germany that was later to become the Federal Republic. She had no news of him for years, so she had him declared dead and then remarried.

He resurfaced in Breslau towards the end of the war and also headed west, but for reasons we may never know he made no attempt to find out where his

His wife did not find out until 1950

felt able to give up her new family. Two years later they were divorced and custody of the younger daughter was awarded to the father.

He worked regularly, first as an office messonger, than as a scrap dealer, as long as his daughter stayed with him at a farm in Upper Bayaria.

Then, at 21, she left after a quarrel with him. He began to decline and ended up being allocated a bed-sitting

He paid DM72 rent per month, plus DM5 toward the cost of electricity, gas and water. The money was remitted by standing order from his bank account, into which a monthly pension of just over DM400 was paid.

The standing order was kept up by the bank's computer. His rent was paid regularly, while over the years the balance of his pension built up into a nestegg of DM35,000

And no-one noticed anything was wrong, or rather, those that ought to have done failed to do so out of negligence or human weakness.

Two others, for instance, who had rooms in the same apartment. One was only too happy to see no more of him. The other was seldom in the apartment anyway.

Then there were the postmen, several of them over the years. They were surprised at the many letters that never seemed to be opened but did nothing

The bank was unable to get his statement to him through the post and made an inquiry to the registry office to see if he was still registered at his last address. The inquiry went unanswered.

When his polling card was sent back to the returning officer marked

"Delivery impossible, letter-box overflowing" the case was closed with the simple entry: "Has moved. New ad-

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

No-one bothered to check. Even the caretaker of the apartment block couldn't be bothered to disturb the peace of the dead,

No-one at the housing company's office saw fit to do anything either. Herr König's consumption of electric power and water had been nil for years, but the staff saw no need to put two and two together.

The pension authority stayed his pension in March because there had been no replies to their postal inquiries, and when the money stopped coming, action was suddenly taken.

His daughters have since turned up, leaving it to the legal profession to de-cide whether the pension fund is entitled not only to the balance of his bank account but also to the rent paid over

At this stage, when all bar the talking was over, the fire brigade was called to put out a fire in an apartment block on the other side of the city.

ar A TV set had caught fire and the firemen had to enter the apartment underneath, where they discovered a 48-yearold man who had committed suicide a fortnight earlier and also gone unnoticed and unmissed.

Now a third corpse has been discovered in Munich, the body of a 47-year-old man who probably died on May Day and was likewise not missed.

The caretaker was alarmed by the unpleasant smell and by newspaper reports of the other two cases.

Josef Kistler, spokesman for the Munich police, has referred to the anonymity of large apartment blocks.

But people seem not to worry about what goes on around them when they can watch the much more exciting progress of world affairs on their TV screens every evening.

Peter Schmalz · " (Did Welt, 11 June 1982)

## Sex goes to the CHILDREN heart of Old-fashioned pencil and the problem

Sex can make or break a relational esearch workers at Aachen Universities of can differences in temperaturity say the best way to learn how Marital troubles are usually during the best way to learn how problems in either or both, especially the old slate pencil and slate, problems in either or both, especially the old slate pencil is awarded top the husband or wife feels neglected wit, albeit a soft slate pencil, and not less important in comparison, problem and pencil, a felt-tipped pen or any less important in comparison, problem that writing implement, trists say in an survey commissional pair writing style is more attractive the Scientific Research Association the Scientific Research Association the Scientific Research Association that the strength of the project. The first not a passing phase, Beginners consisted of problem couples, are a less and a passing phase. Beginners consisted of problem couples, are a less and to write using pencil and

consisted of problem couples, and beamt to write using pencil and age 32 and six years married, the before changing to a fountain pen of "normal" couples for comparison to write more smoothly and About three out of four people succurately.

dergoing therapy were found to design of inhibition and disinhiover sex, temperament and the afferi shown by their partner.

Roughly half also complained quarrels about annoying persone traits or habits of the partner and di rences of opinion on leisure activity how to bring up the children and w views classified under the heat Weltanschauung.

Those who were sexually dissais the 1957 Youth Protection Act has wanted more tenderness, emotional but updated to allow 14-year-olds initiative, activity and relief from the but discotheque, whereas alcononotony of everyday life. has only be sold over the counter. They would also like to be able to be monotony of everyday life.

talk more about what they feel to lead to be the other way round, need, including the desire for gradienty 16-year-olds being allowed to understanding when they happen and placing, whereas 14-year-olds could feel "in form."

This was a point on which the past than protection regulations are unwas usually expected to talk more than Young people take a dim view listen more, to accept the interview filem, and so do tradesmen. Parents more and to show spontaneous allegant too keen either, unless the regution more often in conversation.

The partner ought, it was felt, to be made should be will object to the bid to stem the from others, to be more active and should be usually as a state of the contract of th

going, more optimistic and easy gold has supplies of beer in the refrigera-in leisure activities what is felt the maning low, parents will now in missing is more things done to the TV st. st. have to fetch a few more and less sitting in front of the TV st. st. hemselves.

bringing up the children more affect. The will make definite sense to anymore patience and quiet are called the who has seen virtual children blue.

The partner is also expected will their pocket money on cans of punish the children less and not be Experts are not alone in realising authoritarian, to deal more closely a saily this form of showing off in them and pay attention to them. On the friends can become first a hackmannelmer Morgen, 29 May have an addiction.

Restrictions on

beer sales

stiffened

of addiction his is doubtless splendid on paper, will it not be possible to ignore the regulations just as the old ones ignored in many cases because

As in most cases of addiction, the soft the Youth Protection Act.

Itial symptoms seem harmless. As the lawmakers can do nothing about tious people tend to camouflage the soes on in the home. They never work in their own eyes and in those who allowed to watch war films on Reading that is necessitated by we are offered a glass of sparkling is classified as a leisure activity, the same specific and are offered a glass of sparkling is classified as a leisure activity, the same specific and are offered as glass of sparkling is classified as a leisure activity, the same specific and sam

Frauliurter Allgemeine.

slate 'still the best'

bition, such as cramped writing or running off the line, were less apparent. Even a mere six months' slate train-

ing proved effective, as Professor Friedrich Steinwachs explained at a gathering arranged by the Scientific Research He recently retired as head of the

psychology department at Aachen, where the survey was done.

Dr Walter Edelmann dealt mainly with micromotoric control in writing pressure, pace and rhythm and with slate and pencil and exercise book and pencil as writing materials. Dr Arthur Schirmer concentrated on

the influence of felt-tipped pens, fountain pens and slate pencils on writing Dr Edelmann spent 18 months inves-

tigating two primary school classes taught to write using slates and two classes taught by using exercise books.

Dr Schirmer spent two years investigating eight classes in three different primary schools before arriving at his

Dr Edelmann found that slate children were initially slower at writing than exercise-book children, but they wrote more smoothly.

Slate children interrupted their writing less often, did not press so hard on the surface of their material and thus avoided the stoppages due to pressure that often trouble beginners.

In the course of a slower but more flowing movement children are less likely to spoil the intended shape of the letter or the word.

Writing with a slate pencil is less tir-

The overall appearance of the handwriting of slate children was much more highly rated than that of exercisebook children by experienced primary school teachers.

Children who use lead pencils and exercise books write fast but have to stop more often, with the result that their handwriting flows less smoothly.

Since state children write more rhythmically and harmonically, they would seem to write less tensely than exercisebook children. Dr Edelmann conclu-

They gradually come to write in a less cramped style, but their handwriting runs off the line more often.

This is a phenomenon apparent throughout the writing style of exercisebook children. Their handwriting is not as attractive as that of the slate kids.

Dr Schirmer also found the slate pencil to be more satisfactory than the felt pen, which acted as a brake for reflection on spontaneous movement. Children generally tend to press too

hard on their pen or pencil when learning to write. Pencils are broken, felt tips blunted and nibs bent.

This heavy pressure seems to have a beneficial effect when brought to bear on a slate. It teaches children to mark out their letter outlines better than when using felt pens.

The experts have yet to decide whether slate children's better handwriting is due to this factor or to the fact that writing on a slate is less strenuous.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 5 June 1982)

#### Workoholics

start surreptitiously taking files home

and then on holiday. Neglect of the family and personal interests gives rise to feelings of guilt, but they are not admitted to be what

"They compensate a modicum of embarrassment about always working by despising others who do anything else, such as playing golf or going away for

the weekend and the like," Professor Workoholics do not feel quite as guilty as other addicts, however. What they accomplish by virtue of their addiction are achievements that are highly rated

The workoholic makes sure he always has work in hand by taking on extra work, either at work or in his club or association. It takes work to keep him going; he is too tired or exhausted to do

anything else. In common with other addicts, workoholics feel their capacity is unlimited and steadily exhaust their physical strength.

Whether or not therapy will succeed, he writes, depends to a large extent on how far the addict manages, with help from his therapist and family, to arrive at fresh targets and meaning in life.

(Süddeutscho zeltung, 3 June 1982)

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## The games that grandma used to play

Thildren nowadays are not interested only in computer and TV games, robots, skateboards and the cube, says ethnologist Dr Alois Döring.

Many games their grandparents played are still very much in vogue, he claims. Dr Döring spent over a year questioning 1,300 old people about the games they played as children.

His aim, as commissioned by the Bonn department of ethnology, was tofind out what changes children's games have undergone over the past century.

Stilts, kites and diabolo were evergreens, he found, but skipping and hopscotch were just as popular as ever too. The top, kept spinning by whipping it with a rope, has even staged a come-

Toy manufacturers stopped making tops about 20 years ago, but so many parents and children have been clamouring for them at toy shops that they have started making them again.

But many old games have disappeared, Dr Döring says, because grandparents and parents have failed to hand

them on to the children. In Cologne, on the other hand, there has been a revival of skipping rhymes sung by children at play.

An older person seems to have shown a child the games he or she played long ago and the children promptly relearnt

That still leaves many old games that have gone for good. Old people Dr Döring questioned were enthusiastic about willow twigs they had made sticks or whistles out of as children.

But where are city kids to get hold of willow twigs these days? There is no longer anywhere for them to play at marbles, and when they chalk hopscotch squares on the pavement they promptly get into trouble

Many old people told Dr Döring that children today had much less time and even less room in which to play than they had.

They have less time because they often have to travel a long way to school, have lessons in the afternoon and more

Traffic is so busy that they can no longer play catch-as-catch-can or roll a hoop down the road. There is a clear trend toward regimentation, with children being sent to playgrounds they of-

A further problem is that children used to visit a local school and went out to play together in the afternoon. Now they often attend a variety of schools, some far apart, and friends at school are seldom in a position to team up for mates has grown harder.

Children nowadays next to never make toys of their own, and typical boys' or girls' toys seem to be on the way out too. There are boys that play with dolls and girls that play at marbles.

Dr Döring catalogued over 600 games, and he was often asked whether old games might not be taught answ to ensure their survival.

His oldest informant, Hubert Otten from Waldfeucht, near Heinsberg, is 107. His favourite game a century ago was called Horsemill.

It consisted of ramming a post into the ice and fixing a chain to the post. Then the kids careered round the post on sledges.

he Moonies say they are stepping L up their activities in Germany, and they clearly seem to be concentrating on

Norbert Thiel, a spokesman for the Unification Church of God, says, 300 members of an international missionary team have moved into Germany from Britain since February 1981. 1. 1. 1. 1.

Well-known German university professors have for years attended international scientific congresses held by the Moonies, who in 1979 were described at a US Congressional hearing as an antidemocratic political party. ...

Some of them admit to having known who invited them. Others say they had no idea who the congresses were spon-

behind it and had bankrolled the proceedings.
When they accepted the invitation to attend the gathering free of charge, including a complimentary flight, they

rence progressed that the Moonies were

were completely in the dark. "A number of dons looked distinctly crestfallen," said one participant at the November 1981 congress in Seoul, Korea, which was attended by about 30 university lecturers from the Faderal Republic of Germany, in the state of the

Very few admitted to having known what they were letting themselves in for

# Academics are fooled by the Moonies

They included, Peter Meyer-Dohm, a former vice-chancellor of Bochum University, and Lothar Bossle of Würzburg traint.

University, quantity word and to include the Professor Dieter Cassel of Duisburg emphasised that everyone who attended these congresses was bound to realise that the Moonies were behind them.

Herr. Thiel, representing the Church's root-and-branch anti-Communist. German unit, with headquarters in Frankfurt, say the Rev. Sun Myung Moon appears in person at the gather-

ings as their sponsor. her with a contract The International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences is held annually by the International Cultural Foundation. Both are referred to in official Moonie publications as associate orga-

nisetions. The area transitions must been German dons asked by Deutsche Presse: Agentur why they took part said they enjoyed the travel and were impressed by the inter-disciplinary orientation and participation of highly-qualified and renowned colleagues.

The annual gatherings have indeed and to not having gone unprepared. always been attended by reputed scien-

the Club of Rome:

Their declared aim is unity of the solences. The Unification Church says conferences are intended to promote exchange and cooperation between va-

was surprised at the organisers' res-

It follows from his ideology that the

Professor Bossle, for instance, was asked to arrange a meeting between the Rev. Moon and Bavarian Premier Franz

Professor Peter Kielmannsegg of Coknown where the money was coming others. from a contribution of the angular

Unification Church must seek to gain influence in all sectors of society, and scientists are of particular importance

м<sup>3</sup> в Р. С. баригра в посто и до **дра** 

tists, Nobel laureates and members of

rious disciplines. Most German dons questioned by DPA said they were held along strictly scientific lines. Professor Meyer-Dohm

But the Rev. Moon always delivers a speech in person to the plenary session. Inspired by a vision of Christ and believing himself to be a new Messiah, he reveals himself at the conference as a

in his political strategy.

Josef Strauss. He declined. logne unsuspectingly accepted an invitation to attend a Moonie conference in Los Angeles and felt he had been misled. He wouldn't have gone if he had

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 June 1982)

Dreadful plight the slot machines may no longer kitalled where under-18s have ac-

Professor Hermann Dietz, a Hase Were not strictly enforced?

specialist in psychosomatic of the managers are sure to say they plaints, deals in Lutherische Mon Time a beer is ordered. heste, the Lutheran monthly, with the labs and discos where mostly can happen when people grow adding the people congregate need not lose

Workoholics take highly-rated out by by banning beer and only selling ties such as hard work, perseveres tinks. Most kids are there for the success orientation and ambition and disco owners will certainly bances and other serious consequent to come up with a good excuse. occur in the form of what can only to be been increased termed an addiction.

Continued on page 15

(Dentiches Allgemeines Sonntageblatt, [3 Jime 1982)